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# OVERSTREET'S Price Update

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- Regional Market Reports
- "What's Hot & What's Not" Reports
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Rates:
Full Page $300
Half Page $200
Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication month.
Publication Months:
June
August
October
December
Include payment with copy.

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ISBN: 0-911903-02-X

# THE OVERSTREET UPDATE

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**About Pricing** - The prices shown in this guide represent an honest and responsible evaluation of current market values. The prices represent an average of dealer retail prices compiled from data supplied by our Board Of Special Advisors. Prices often vary widely from region to region because supply and demand varies. Therefore, each seller should determine prices based in part by using this guide, and also by understanding his/her regional supply and demand factors.
**WHAT THESE PRICES ARE**: The prices in this Update, particularly on more expensive books, are a Moving Average of the market prices realized over the last few months. Thus every Update picks up figures for the latest quarter and drops those for the earliest, then a new average is computed. It is important for collectors to understand that since the Update Price is an average, it will never be the same as the highest or most recent sales price. Thus, by using this type of market average, dramatic and radical price changes upward or downward are avoided. The result is a more stable market. For most recent documented sales reports and actual sales prices for the most recent period, refer to our Sales Index Section.

When buying collections, dealers will normally pay 1/4 to 3/4 of this Guide value based on inventory needs and local market conditions.

## PRICING LOWER GRADES

Prices listed in this Guide are for comic books in NEAR MINT condition. The value of a comic in a lower grade can be determined by multiplying the price shown by the appropriate percentage as shown below using the SAME PERCENTAGES for that issue as shown in The Official Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide:

| | |
|---|---|
| Near Mint = | 100% |
| Very Fine-Near Mint = | 90% |
| Very Fine = | 70 - 75% |
| Fine-Very Fine = | 55 - 60% |
| Fine = | 40 - 45% (Comics from 1970 - Present are at 50% of NM for Fine) |
| Very Good-Fine = | 35% |
| Very Good = | 30% |
| Good-Very Good | 20% |
| Good = | 15% |

## GRADING COMIC BOOKS - THE CRITICAL FACTOR

Note: This grading section replaces all previous grading definitions in prior editions of The Official Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide..

**Please note: Age is not a factor when grading comic books. A 30 year old comic book should be graded with the same criteria as a 1 year old comic book.**

Before a comic book's true value can be assessed, its condition or state of preservation must be determined. In all comic books the better the condition the more desirable and valuable the book. Comic books in MINT condition will bring several times the price of the same book in POOR condition. Therefore it is very important to be able to properly grade your books. Comics should be graded from the inside out, so the following steps should be taken to properly grade a comic book.

1. **Check inside pages**. Gently open the comic to the centerfold (except for annuals) and let it lay in the cup of your hand. Check the condition of the paper for suppleness, whiteness/browning/brittleness. Smell paper for freshness/acidity. If the book is brittle or too brown, you may not want to go further; especially check along the spine and outer edges for browning/brittleness. If the paper looks o.k., then proceed and check the following: Centerfold for tightness and secured staples (centerfolds are sometimes replaced from other books-check for trimming and color variations from rest of book); tears or chunks missing from the inside pages; missing pages (count pages); edges for possible trimming (trimmed book edges appear whiter and flatter than normal); soiling, water marks, tape, crayoning, inking or penciling; repairs, gluing and paper replacement; panels, coupons or pages cut out.

2. **Check inside covers**. Check the condition of the inside cover paper for suppleness, whiteness/browning/brittleness. Look for unusual whiteness compared to other pages in the book which may indicate the book has been bleached. Look for tears, chunks, missing, paper replacement, tear repairs, tape, writing, dirt, water marks, soiling or any noticeable defect that would detract from the grading. Let light reflect off the surface of the cover and check cover edges for pieces replaced.

3. **Check inside spine**. Check the entire area along the spine, especially where the cover is attached. Look for spine splitting, loose staples that have pulled through the cover, cover & spine paper replacement, tear repairs, gluing, tape repairs, staple reinforcement, recoloring bleed-through from front, spine reinforcement, bleaching or any other noticeable defect.

4. **Check outside spine**. Check spine for tightness, proper folding (centering & rolled spine), proper stapling and condition of spine corners. Spine corners are easily damaged, so look for rubbing, pieces missing and splitting. Check spine for stress lines and determine the number of stress lines along the spine. Check staple areas for tear repair, recoloring, reinforcement and staple replacement (replaced staples should match the originals as closely as possible) (fraying around staple holes may indicate that the staples had been removed at one time). Look for splitting, paper replacement, recoloring, sewing holes, gluing, tape, soiling, pieces missing or any other defect that would detract from the grade.

5. **Check outside covers**. Here is where the slightest amount of wear and abuse really shows. The

# GRADING COMIC BOOKS - THE CRITICAL FACTOR

outside appearance of covers subjectively affects grading more than anything else, although inside condition has to influence the final grade given a book. Remember, a mint cover with brittle insides is still a brittle book! Check for squareness of trim, sharpness of edges and corners, amount of gloss, color fading, centering and proper placement of staples and centering of cover art. Look for defects such as subscription creases, other creases, tears, corners missing, chips, color flakes, folds, holes, whiteness, soiling, rubbing, writing, color touch-up, paper replacement, tape, retrimming or anything else that would detract from the grade.

## GRADING

The grading of a comic book is done by simply looking at the book and describing its condition, which may range from absolutely perfect newsstand condition (MINT) to extremely worn, dirty, and torn (POOR).

**Note on understanding terminologies and descriptions:** A flaw that is permitted in a higher grade is also permitted in all lower grades, even though the flaw may not be mentioned again in lower grade descriptions. A flaw that is not permitted in a higher grade, but is not noted as being not permitted in the next lower grade, is permitted in that grade and all lower grades. For example, if VF cannot have yellowish pages, but FN does not exclude yellowish pages as a defect, then yellowish pages are allowed in that grade and all lower grades below it. When a book is described as simply FVF condition, you can expect a book that does not fall abnormally outside of the FVF grade description. When a book is graded as FVF and described as having a 1" spine split, this means that there is a defect which is not allowed in the
FVF grade that is present in this copy, otherwise the appearance is a standard FVF copy.
Numerous variables (as outlined above) influence the evaluation of a comic's condition and all must be considered in the final evaluation. As grading is the most subjective aspect of determining a comic's value, it is very important that the grader must be careful and not allow wishful thinking to influence what the eyes see. It is also very important to realize that older comics in MINT condition are extremely scarce and are rarely advertised for sale; most of the higher grade comics advertised range from VERY FINE to NEAR MINT. To the novice grading will appear difficult at first but, as experience is gained accuracy will improve. Whenever in doubt, consult with a reputable dealer or experienced collector in your area. The following grading guide is given to aid the collector.

## WARNING ABOUT RESTORATION:

Many rare and expensive books are being restored by professionals. These books are not actually higher grades, but are altered lower grade books. It has been brought to our attention that some dealers have been selling these books to unsuspecting collectors/investors - without telling them of the restoration. In some cases these restored books are being priced the same as unrestored books. **Very important:** Use the guidelines above to examine books very closely for repairing or restoration before purchase. The more expensive the book, the greater the likelihood of restoration. Major things to look for are: bleaching, whitening, trimming, invisible spine and tear reinforcement, gluing, restapling, missing pieces replaced, wrinkles pressed out of covers, recoloring and regiossing covers. Dealers should state that a book has been restored and not expect to get as much as a book unrestored in that condition would bring. Any kind of repair or restoration is considered a defect from the original condition of the book.

## GRADING DEFINITIONS

The hardest part of evaluating a comic is being honest and objective with yourself, and knowing what characteristics to look for in making your assessment.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** A book must be graded in its entirety, considering all defects, fairly and honestly. Do not grade just the cover alone. A book in any of the grades listed must be in **ORIGINAL UNRESTORED** condition. **Restored books** must be described as such. The value of an extensively restored book may improve only slightly from its original unrestored state. After examining these characteristics a comic may be assigned to one of the following grades:

**Note:** Tiny-1/16" or less; Small-1/8" or less; Minor-1/4" or less; Light-1/2" or less. **Eye-appeal:** The final grade given any book is determined by how appealing the book appears to the eye. Therefore, defects to the back cover affect the grade less than the same defects to the front cover. A final grade is the sum of all positive and negative aspects of a book. Since eye-appeal is subjective, grading is an art and not a science. Defects that disturb one collector may not be a factor to another. Use these grading guidelines as a general consensus of most knowledgeable collectors and dealers.

**MINT (M):** Absolutely perfect in every way, regardless of age. No printing defects are allowed. The cover has full original gloss, is crisp, cut square with sharp corners and shows no imperfections of any sort. Minute color fading is allowed. The cover and all pages are creamy white and fresh; the spine is tight, flat, and clean with no stress lines; not even the slightest blemish can be detected around staples, along spine edges or at corners. Arrival dates pencilled on the cover are usually acceptable so long as they are very small. When the surface of the front and back covers is held to the light, not the slightest wear, indentations, wrinkles or defects of any kind can be observed. As comics must be truly perfect to be in this grade, they are obviously extremely scarce and seldom are offered for sale. Books prior to 1970 in this grade can and usually do bring above guide prices.

**NEAR MINT (NM):** Nearly perfect. Upon close inspection, one or possibly two very tiny imperfections can be found. Often these imperfections are noticed only when holding the surface of the front and back covers under bright light. Possibly a tiny (1/16th inch) color flake missing at a staple, corner or edge. Or, a tiny (1/16th inch) spine tear is permitted if no other defects are observed. No crease of any kind. Near perfect cover gloss retained. Not more than three very tiny stress lines along the spine maybe present. Pages and covers should be creamy to white, not yellow or brown. No color touch-up, repair or restoration of any kind is allowed in this grade. No printing defects are allowed. This grade is also very rare in books prior to 1970.

**VERY FINE-NEAR MINT (VFNM):** Beautiful, glossy and excellent in every way with only minor imperfections that keep it out of the higher grades. One tiny corner crease of less than 1/8th inch length is allowed. Up to 6 tiny (1/16th inch) stress lines along the spine is acceptable if the eye appeal of the book is not seriously affected. Pages should be creamy at least. A common defect in this grade is a tiny spine tear at the upper or lower spine not greater than 1/16th inch in length. One or no more than two tiny tears (1/16th inch) are permitted in this grade. An extremely tiny tear repair, microscopic dot color touch-up, unobtrusive arrival date erasure or other similar invisible alterations, on an otherwise perfect copy, is permitted in this grade.

**VERY FINE (VF):** An excellent copy with outstanding eye-appeal. Sharp, bright, clean and glossy with supple pages. Slight wear beginning to show; possibly 5 or 6 tiny wrinkles or stress lines at staples or along spine where cover has been opened a few times; still clean and flat with 80 per cent of cover gloss retained. Pages and covers can be yellowish/tannish (at the least) but not brown and will usually be creamy to white. 4 or 5 tiny color flakes are acceptable. One 1/4 inch corner crease on an otherwise exceptional copy is permitted. Very minor restoration or repair is not allowed in this grade unless it is specifically noted and described. Comics in this grade are normally the highest grade offered for sale and often books graded higher are misgraded VFs.

**FINE-VERY FINE (FVF):** Nearly Very Fine. A sharp, clean copy but without the crispness associated with Very Fine. Pages can be slightly tannish but not brown or brittle. Up to 8 tiny stress lines along the spine or covers can be expected. Several tiny color flakes are permitted. No subscription creases or spine roll allowed. A minor printing defect is allowed. Corners may be very slightly rounded. Exceptional cover gloss remains (60 per cent or more).

**FINE (FN):** An exceptional, above-average copy that shows minor wear, but still relatively flat, clean and glossy with no subscription crease, writing on cover (except an arrival date), brown margins or tape repairs.
Typical defects include: Light spine wear, minor surface wear, a light crease (1/4 inch in length), minor yellowing/tanning to interior pages. Still a bright copy with 50 per cent cover gloss. A few stress lines around staples and along spine to be expected, but not more than 1/8th inch in length. One small edge chip or several tiny chips are allowed. One minor tear is allowed when on an otherwise FVF copy. Very minor spine roll allowed on an otherwise clean and uncreased copy.

**VERY GOOD (VG):** The average used comic book most commonly found. Significant wear is obvious with original printing lustre and gloss almost gone; some discoloration or fading, but not soiled. One or two minor markings on covers is permitted as is a minor spine roll. Lightly creased along spine or extremities; a subscription crease is allowed. Cover could have a minor tear or crease where a corner was folded under or a loose

# GRADING COMIC BOOKS - THE CRITICAL FACTOR

centerfold. A minor chip or piece missing is allowed when noted. No chunks missing. Pages and inside covers may be brown but not brittle, but would usually be yellowish to creamy. One small tape repair permitted. Still enough eye-appeal to be collectable.

**GOOD-VERY GOOD (GVG):** A worn copy without the extreme wear associated with the lower grades. Several significant defects such as tape repairs, minor tears or long creases may be present.

**GOOD (G):** A heavily worn copy but complete. Creased, scuffed, not glossy and soiled. Although a copy in this grade could have white pages and covers, the accumulation of defects such as creases, tears or chips and general wear prevent the book from a higher classification.

**FAIR (F):** Very heavily read and soiled, but still complete. Damaged beyond collectibility for most collectors, bringing 30-50 per cent of the Good price.

**POOR (P):** Damaged, heavily weathered, soiled, or otherwise unsuited for collectors purposes. Possibly incomplete or coverless; pages may be missing, bringing 15 to 25 per cent of the Good price.

**COVERLESS (C):** Coverless comics are usually hard to sell and in many cases are worthless.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Exceptional cases in all grades exist. The following are some exceptions for the amateur to consider:

1. Comics in all grades with fresh extra white pages are more desirable. Thus, a VG copy with white pages is worth more than the same copy with browning pages.

2. A high grade comic with a major, unusual defect should be down graded two or more grades. An example would be a NM comic which has a half inch spine split or a VF comic with brownish pages or covers.

3. Corner creases are the most commonly disputed defects. A long corner crease on a high grade book should lower the grade at least two steps.

4. A comic which appears NM or M but has brittle or flaking pages should be dropped six or more steps. A VF or better comic with brown covers or pages should be dropped at least one or more steps.

5. Other exceptional defects such as books with panels missing, coupons cut, torn or taped covers and pages, brown or brittle pages, restapled, retrimmed, taped spines, pages or covers, water-marked, printing defects, rusted staples, stained, holed, or other imperfections should be taken into consideration by the grader and the grade should be lowered several steps according to the severity of the defect.

6. In no case is a repaired or restored book ever worth the same as a book that has no repair or restoration.

**DUST JACKETS:** Many of the early strip reprint comics were printed in hardback with dust jackets. Books with dust jackets are worth more. The value can increase from 20 to 50 percent depending on the rarity of book. Usually, the earlier the book, the greater the percentage. Unless noted, prices listed are without dust jackets. The condition of the dust jacket should be graded independently of the book itself.

## SCARCITY OF COMIC BOOKS RELATED TO GRADE

**1900-1933 Comics:** Most of these books are bound with thick cardboard covers and are very rare to non-existent in fine or better condition. Due to their extreme age, paper browning is very common. Brittleness could be a problem.

**1933-1940 Comics:** There are many issues from this period that are very scarce in any condition, especially from the early to mid-1930s. Surviving copies of any particular issue range from a handful to several hundred. Near Mint to Mint copies are virtually non-existent. Known examples of this grade are five less copies for any particular issue. Most surviving copies are in FVF or less condition. Brittleness or browning of paper is fairly common and could be a problem.

**1941-1952 Comics:** Surviving comic books would number from less than 100 to several thousand copies of each issue. Near Mint to Mint copies are a little more common but are still relatively scarce with only a dozen or so copies in this grade existing of any particular issue. Exceptions would be recent warehouse finds of most Dell comics (6-100 copies, but usually 30 or less), and Harvey comics (1950s-1970s) surfacing. Due to low paper quality of the late 1940s and 1950s, many comics from this period are rare in Near Mint to Mint condition. Most remaining copies are VF of less. Browning of paper could be a problem.

**1953-1959 Comics:** As comic book sales continued to drop during the 1950s, production values were lowered resulting in cheaply printed comics. For this reason, high grade copies are extremely rare. Many Atlas and Marvel comics have chipping along the trimmed edges (Marvel chipping) which reduces even more the number of surviving high grade copies.

**1960-1970 Comics:** Early 60s comics are rare in Near Mint to Mint condition. Most copies of early 60s Marvels and DCs grade no higher than VF. Many early keys in NM or M exist in numbers less than 10 of each. Mid to late 60s books in high grade are more common due to the hoarding of comics that began in the mid 60s.

**1970-Present:** Comics of today are common in high grade. NM to M is the standard rather than the exception.

When you consider how few Golden and Silver Age books exist compared to the current market, you will begin to appreciate the true rarity of these early books.

## TERMINOLOGY

Many of the following terms and abbreviations are used in the comic book market and are explained here:

**a**-Story art; **a(i)**-Story art inks; **a(p)**-Story art pencils; **a(r)**-Story art reprint.

**Annual**-A book that is published yearly.

**Arrival date**-Markings on a comic book cover (usually in pencil) made by either the newstand dealer or the distributor. These markings denote the date the book was placed on the newstand. Usually the arrival date is one or two months prior to the cover date.

**Ashcan**-A publisher's inhouse facsimile of a proposed new title. Most ashcans have black & white covers stapled to an existing coverless comic on the inside. Other ashcans are totally black and white.

**B & W**-Black and white art.

**Bi-monthly**-Published every two months.

**Bi-weekly**-Published every two weeks.

**Bondage cover**-Usually denotes a female in bondage.

**Brittleness**-The final stage of paper deterioration.

**c**-Cover art; **c(i)**-Cover inks; **c(p)**-Cover pencils; **c(r)**-Cover reprint.

**Cameo**-When a character appears briefly in one or two panels.

**CCA**-Comics Code Authority.

**CCA seal**-An emblem that was placed on the cover of all CCA approved comics beginning in April-May, 1955.

**Centerfold**-The two folded pages in the center of a comic at the terminal end of the staples.

**Church, Edgar collection**-A large high grade comic book collection discovered by Mile High Comics in Colorado (over 22,000 books).

**Colorist**-Artist that applies color to the black and white pen and ink art.

**Comic book repair**-When a tear, loose staple or centerfold has been mended without changing or adding to the original finish of the book. Repair may involve tape, glue or nylon gossamer and is easily detected. It is considered a defect.

**Comic book restoration**-Any attempt, whether professional or amateur, to enhance the appearance of a comic book. These procedures may include any or all of the following techniques: Recoloring, adding missing paper, stain, ink, dirt, tape removal, whitening, pressing out wrinkles, staple replacement, trimming, re-glossing, etc. Note: Unprofessional work can lower the value of a book. In all cases, a restored book can never be worth the same as an unrestored book in the same condition.

**Comics Code Authority**-In 1954 the major publishers joined together and formed a committee who set up guide lines for acceptable comic contents. It was their task to approve the contents of comics before publication.

**Con**-A Convention or public gathering of fans.

**Cosmic Aeroplane**-Refers to a large collection discovered by Cosmic Aeroplane Books.

**Debut**-The first time that a character appears anywhere.

**Double Cover**-An error in the binding process which results in two or more covers being bound to a single book. Multiple covers are not considered a defect.

**Drug propaganda story**-Where comic makes an editorial stand about drug abuse.

**Drug use story**-Shows the actual use of drugs; shooting, taking a trip, harmful effects, etc.

**Fanzine**-An amateur fan publication.

**File Copy**-A high grade comic originating from the publisher's file. Not all file copies are in pristine condition. Note: An arrival date on the cover of a comic does not indicate that it is a file copy.
**First app.**-Same as debut.
**Flashback**-When a previous story is being recalled.
**Four color-**A printing process in which all primary colors plus black are used. Also refers to the Four Color series published by Dell.
**Foxing**-Tiny orange-brown spots on the cover or pages of a comic book.
**G. A.**-Golden Age.
**Golden Age (G. A.)**-The period beginning with Action #1 (June, 1938) and ending with World War II in 1945.
**Headlight**-Protruding breasts.
**I-Art inks.**
**Infinity cover**-Shows a scene that repeats itself to infinity.
**Inker**-Artist that does the inking.
**Intro**-Same as debut.
**JLA**-Justice League of America.
**JLI**-Justice League International.
**JSA**-Justice Society of America.
**Lamont Larson**-Refers to a large high grade collection of comics. Many of the books have Lamont or Larson written on the cover.
**Logo**-The title of a strip or comic book as it appears on the cover or title page.
**LSH**-Legion of Super-Heroes.
**Marvel chipping**-A defect that occurred during the trimming process of 1950s & 1960s Marvels which produced a ragged edge around the comic cover. Usually takes the form of a tiny chip or chips along the right-hand edge of the cover.
**Mile High**-Refers to a large NM-Mint collection of comics originating from Denver, Colorado (Edgar Church collection).
**nd**-No date.
**nn**-No number.
**N. Y. Legis. Comm.**-New York Legislative Committee to Study the Publication of Comics (1951).
**One-shot**-When only one issue is published of a title, or when a series is published where each issue is a different title (i.e. Four Color).
**Origin**-When the story of the character's creation is given.
**Over guide**-When a comic book is priced at a value over guide list.
**p**-Art pencils.
**Pedigree**-A book from a famous collection, e.g. Larson, Church/Mile High, Denver, San Francisco, Cosmic Aeroplane, etc. Note: beware of non-pedigree collections being promoted as pedigree books. Only outstanding famous collections such as those listed qualify.
**Penciller**-Artist that does the pencils.
**POP-Parade of Pleasure**-book about the censorship of comics.
**Post-Code**-Comic books published with the CCA seal.
**Post-Golden Age**-Comic books published between 1945 and 1950.
**Post-Silver Age**-Comic books published from 1969 to present.
**Poughkeepsie**-Refers to a large collection of Dell Comics' "file copies" believed to have originated from the warehouse of Western Publishing in oughkeepsie, N. Y.
**Pre-Code**-Comic books published before the CCA seal.
**Pre-Golden Age**-Comic books published prior to Action #1 (June, 1938).
**Pre-Silver Age**-Comic books published between 1950 and Showcase #4 (1956).
**Provenance**- When the owner of a book is known and is stated for the purpose of authenticating and documenting the history of the book. Example: A book from the Stan Lee or Forrest Ackerman collection would be an example of a value-adding provenance.
**Quarterly**- Published every three months.
**R or r**- Reprint.
**Rare**- 10 to 20 copies estimated to exist.
**Reprint comics**- Comic books that contain newspaper strip reprints.
**Rice paper**- A thin, transparent paper commonly used by restorers to repair tears and replace small pieces on covers and pages of comic books.
**S.A. -** Silver Age.
**Scarce**- 20 to 100 copies estimated to exist.
**Silver Age**-Officially begins with Showcase #4 in 1956 and ends in 1969.

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Welcome to another price update. This time I will just provide some general observations about current and Silver Age titles.

Current Titles:

MARVEL: The big news in current titles is the success of Marvel's 1990 debuts. Robocop 1 disappeared immediately, and now commands back issue prices as high as $7. Namor also sold out quickly, with issues 2 and 3 following suit soon after they were released. (When I say "sold out", I mean that Marvel or DC sold out of the book. Whenever Marvel or DC print a book, they will make an overprint large enough, in their estimation, to last for a reasonable length of time. Because Marvel and DC distribute books throughout the country, a quick sell out is a true indication of a hot book.) Ghost Rider 1 met with similar success. After selling out within a week, Marvel saw enough demand to solicit a second printing of 50,000 additional copies. This second printing was also a last minute addition of 50,000 extra copies to the scheduled 175,000 copy first print run. Marvel ran the printing presses for the first 175,000 and shut down the presses for some time before starting them up again for the additional 50,000 copies of the "first printing". So strictly speaking, the book is now in its third printing. That is a hot book. I'm hearing price quotes ranging anywhere from $3.50 to $10 per copy.

What's the verdict on these three books? Robocop is well-written and competently illustrated, but it may not last, as the character exists outside the Marvel universe. Because of this, the story-line is more limited, and there are fewer ways to draw in new readers. On the other hand, "Robocop 2" debuts in theaters in June. If the movie is a smash, look out. Namor is also well-written and illustrated, with a mature story-line and plenty of crossover action. The character is also interesting, as we get the chance to see plenty of Namor's life out of costume. Nature of the hot book is in Marvel's hands. She-Hulk sales dropped substantially when Byrne left that book. Byrne will eventually leave Namor (not as hastily as he left She Hulk) and the continued success of the book will depend upon the quality of the replacement team. Ghost Rider looks promising. I heard nothing but praise for the artwork of Saltares and Texiera. Some readers were not as impressed with the story, but it seemed solid to me, and seems to improve with each issue. Also, there will be plenty of crossover action. Non-readers will be storming for the early issues after the Punisher co-stars in issues 5 and 6. This book appears to have a bright future.

Of course, there are many other Marvel titles selling well. If you don't know that McFarlane Spiderman issues are hot, you've been cooped up in your Hobbit hole for too long. Punisher and War Journal continue to sell well. The main mutant titles are also doing well. New Mutants received a much-needed shot in the arm with the arrival of Rob Liefeld on issue 86. If his popularity continues to grow and he has a long stint on the book, this could turn out to be a significant book. Wolverine continues to sell well. The X-Men look a whole lot different these days, and readership has bounced back from the pre-Jim Lee days. Watch out for #95.

Marvel Picks: Some of these picks are obviously more speculative than others. But, I have followed all my own advice on these items, so if you lose, so will I.

1. Ghost Rider 1-6, Go "hog-wild" on #5.
2. New Mutants 86.
3. Sam Kieth art. This art is unique. Check out Hulk 368. Sam Kieth does the art on the upcoming "Aliens: Earth War" series for Dark Horse Comics. If this series gives him the exposure necessary for Marvel or DC to sign him to a long-term contract on a major title, such as Hulk, it could be wise to buy a quantity of the first issue in his run. Watch for his work on an upcoming "Marvel Comics Presents" Wolverine story. I've seen some of the artwork, and it is incredible!
4. Wolverine 25. This story contains a previously untold origin story of Wolverine as a child.
5. Amazing Spiderman 328. Vintage McFarlane and a classic Hulk/ Spiderman battle in which Spiderman nearly kills the Hulk. #333 is the (apparent) death of Venom.

Conspicuously absent: Spiderman 1. This book will sell phenomenally. There is talk of 2 million or more copies. (Legends of the Dark Knight 1 saw a print run of 800,000). It's not the huge print runs which I find troublesome. It's the fact that so many books will be in the hands of comic store customers. I don't know of a single store which has not been pre-selling multiple copies to many different customers. This means that six months from now, these same stores will have a ready source for Spiderman 1's. If there is a time when this book will be difficult to get, this will be in the short to short mid term (1 to 4 months after it debuts). During this time, Spiderman 1 owners are going to be testing the waters. But eventually, collectors will want money for something. If they own 30 copies of Spiderman 1, it will be fairly painless to sell 10 of them. The thing that makes a good back issue and strong investment is a book which stores have trouble finding. (Try walking into a store with a stack of Emerald Dawn 1's or War Journal 1's or 6's and watch the reaction) Even if none of the customers in a given store is surrendering their Spiderman 1's, the store owners will be reluctant to pay a premium for them since they will know that they can be had eventually. I buy and sell books for two investors who buy in large quantities. Neither one will own any copies of Spiderman 1.

A few more notes on Spiderman 1: I feel that the signed copies represent a conflict of interest. Just as employees of Diamond and Capital are forbidden to own retail establishments, I think that comic book creators should not have their hands so directly in the market. Their job is to create and promote their products not manipulate the market and at the same time line their pockets. Incidentally, will these copy come with some sort of a certificate of authenticity? How tough could it be for dishonest people to forge McFarlane's signature?

Finally, I hope Marvel has a very strong long term commitment to this book. After milking this project for every possible penny, if McFarlane leaves and is replaced by a weak creative team, Marvel should be scorned. Incidentally, what do you suppose will happen to the market for this book when McFarlane leaves? Criticism aside, I think the book will have a great story with fabulous artwork. Personally, I can't wait to read it. If you buy any copies, try to get the silver bagged editions.

Marvel is still the top dog.

DC: The man at the helm here is still the Batman. But Batman back issue sales have slowed considerably. It's high time for Warner Brothers to release some promotional information on Batman II. New issue sales on Batman have also dropped steadily, but look for a resurgence in May and June with the "Return of the Joker" story-line and the Riddler story-line "Dark Knight, Dark City" in Batman 452-454. Legends of the Dark Knight has picked up with the arrival of Grant Morrison on issue 6. Look for another high quality story-line starting with issue 11. Paul Gulacy and Terry Austin will illustrate Doug Moench's story-line.

Other than Batman, DC's strong suit has also been it's 1990 debuts. Green Lantern: Emerald Dawn was an instant sell out, and issues 1-4 now command high back issue prices. This success has helped the new Green Lantern book sell smashingly, also selling out in short order. This title could have some serious legs (staying power), as the story-line revolves around three different GL's so there will always be something excellent. Hawkworld mini-series: this book has been a strong seller. Another success for DC of late has been the Superman books. The "Krypton Man" story-line was under-ordered by retailers, and the Batman crossover "Dark Knight Over Metropolis" was well-written and well-received. In Action 654, Superman presents Batman with Lex Luthor's Kryptonite ring and thus the power to kill him. This event is significant for two reasons. First, this potentially and under the right circumstances gives Batman power over Superman. Second, it necessitates a significant story-line sometime in the future. In "Batman: The Dark Knight Returns" by Frank Miller, Batman and Superman do battle sometime in the future. Batman fights Superman with some advanced combat equipment, but does not have the Kryptonite ring. That means that sometime in the future, Superman either has to repossess the ring or Batman has to lose it to someone else with designs on Superman's demise. Either way, it should be a neat story.

With the exception of the above, DC's successes are mainly geared towards a more mature audience, with titles such as Sandman and Animal Man. The other DC books are generally puttering and sputtering along.

Digital Justice was not as well received as many people anticipated. This is unfortunate. The story was interesting, and what Pep Moreno was able to do with an Apple Computer is incredible. It's worth a look.

DC Picks:

1. Shade, The Changing Man 1: I had a chance to read the first issue before it came out. It's good stuff. The art is crisp. Writer Peter Milligan is destined to be a formidable figure on the comics scene for years to come.
2. Batman 452: More Milligan. Something significant is going to happen in this story-line. The Riddler returns with a violent vengeance.

Slim pickings, I know. World's Finest has possibilities, but I generally discourage investment in titles with a cover price over $3. To make reasonable money on such a book, it has to sell for over $5, which seems to be a purchase threshold for a lot of people. It's much easier to get someone to pay $2 for a $1 cover price comic than to pay $10 for a $5 cover price comic. With that in mind, I think it's unfortunate that both DC and Marvel have such a heavy focus upon more expensive items for the rest of 1990. Many of these stories could be told as effectively in a less expensive format which would allow more readers to enjoy them.

INDEPENDENTS: Dark Horse wears the crown here. All of their Aliens and Predator related items sell well. Aliens VS Predators will break records for an independent title. Dark Horse will go on a tear in June, when they Debut Aliens VS Predators, Aliens: Earth War and Frank Miller's Give Me Liberty. Now Comics had hits with Green Hornet, Terminator: The Burning Earth, and Married with Children. The other big independent hit was Innovation's Vampire Lestat. Other than these titles, very little happened on the independent scene.

Independent picks: There is potential for several strong independent books this summer. The first is Aliens: Earth War, I've seen the first issue in it's entirety. The story is solid, and the art, by Sam Kieth, is excellent. The second is Now's Twilight Zone. Now has promised to showcase the best horror/sci-fi stories. The first issue has a story written by Harlan Ellison and drawn by Neal Adams. It should be excellent.

SILVER AGE:

The Silver age market is still alive and well, but I fear things may not last. If prices continue to rise 10-15% every two to three months, it doesn't take long for prices to double. Eventually, many collectors will be priced out of the silver age market. They probably will not turn to Golden Age books. While many of those books are comparatively cheap, they are all fairly expensive (as they should be). That leaves the 70's books. These books are still cheap (as they should be). Not a whole lot happened in the 70's. Most of the series which are still running today began in the 60's or in the Golden Age. A large part of the joy of collecting is to complete a collection of a title. For the most part, titles which started and ended in the 70's were fairly weak. That's why they ended in the 70's. There is a reason why comic books declined in popularity during that decade. It would be a shame to see collectors who would rather collect silver age books turn to the 70's by default.

It's certainly a difficult situation. Though Silver Age books have consistently risen in value according to the price guide, many (including myself) would argue that they are not yet expensive enough (or even close, in many cases). For instance, it is easy to argue that no book in VF or better published before 1965 should guide for less than $10. And many Silver Age books are truly difficult to locate in high grade. When found, these books go for above the current guide, and often multiples of guide. In order to accurately reflect the market, prices in this guide should rise. But while high grade books from the mid-sixties and before are difficult to find, their lower grade counterparts are generally abundant. If a VG Atom 1 sells for $60 when the book guides for $200 in NM, what should happen when (if) the guide price is changed to reflect the $350-$450 which the market will yield on this book in NM? Should the VG price move to $100-$135?

Silver Age Picks: I buy any and all pre '66 DC's I can find in VF/NM and better. I personally prefer Silver Age DC's to Silver Age Marvels, and they are generally more difficult to find in high grade. In addition, with the yearly guide's focus on Silver Age DC's, the attention of more collectors could shift in this direction, driving up prices.

OVERALL: The focus of my report is often upon turning comic books into money or larger piles of comic books. But I think it is important to remember that the reason most collectors participate in the hobby is because they enjoy it. If the pleasure disappears, so do they. Even so, I think most collectors enjoy the prospect of their books appreciating in value. That's one of the reasons why this hobby is a good one, especially for youngsters. In addition to the reading and creativity which comics promote, most collectors will get something out of their collections even after the joy of reading comics has disappeared for them (I know it's a difficult scenario to imagine). With many hobbies and activities, once your money is spent, it is gone.

With that in mind, have a great time. If you turn a little profit along the way, more power to you.

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Here we are again! Another market report to write and so little time to write it. Over six months have passed since the last Update and there is much to tell. Not surprisingly, the comic market, which has seen a great deal of change in recent times, has remained strong.

While prices for quality Golden and Silver Age books have certainly seen some dramatic increases, the collector base for these books remains relatively small. An example of this would be the market for Church copies. Although the quality of these books can never be overstated and the values of these books are at an all-time high, the collector base for these books remains extremely limited. If a book such as the Church copy of Marvel Comics #1 were to be put on the market, only a very small handful of people would be considered potential buyers and most of those people would be dealers.

We believe that 1990 will see a great deal of interest in the Golden Age market. We also believe that this interest will be evenly spread throughout a wide variety of publishers. Some of these publishers will include but are not limited to DC, Timely, Fiction House, Fox, MLJ, Centaur, Atlas, Dell (early Disney's) and EC. In recent years, it seems that the market has concentrated on only one particular publisher at a time. In 1990, dealers will find that many of the collectors who would only consider purchasing Silver Age in 1989, will have quite a large number of Golden Age books on their want lists.

We had the pleasure of selling the Allentown copy of Detective Comics #27 earlier in the year. The price for this book, which was $60,000, easily set a new record for the most money ever realized for a single comic book. It is our hope that this sale will help further establish rare comic books in the collectibles market. If the comic market is to grow, new collectors must be attracted. From our experience, we have found that the only aspect of the comic market that makes the general public sit up and take notice is the money. This statement may seem harsh but it also happens to be true.

Recently, we have heard some further rumblings about the establishment of a comic book grading service. There is unquestionably a need for such a service, yet we would tend to doubt whether such a service could ever get off the ground. The opinions and standards of comic grading are so varied that it would be rather difficult to create a standard grading scale that everybody would agree with. While slight variations in gradings, such as a VG book being graded VG+, are natural, we have received quite a large number of books that appear to have been graded by Stevie Wonder and Ray Charles. Recently, we purchased a collection of early Silver Age DC comics from a dealer in the Mid-West. When we finally received these

books, we were extremely disappointed. An early issue of Showcase which appeared Fair and had a 1 1/2 inch piece out of the cover was graded at VG. Another early Showcase, which was graded VG/F had been painted with a paint brush and appeared to be a Good minus. If available Golden or Silver Age book could be offered for sale accompan ied by an official certificate stating the condition of the book, there is no question that a collector would feel more comfortable about purchasing this book. In the long run, the book's certification would make the book significantly more more marketable and valuable.

And now for the market report . . . . .

DC

Collectors should pay particular attention to key Golden Age DC first issues and to Silver Age premium issues. Issues containing the first appearances of the Justice Society of America members will show the most activity (early All-Stars). Many years ago, several significant sales were recorded for More Fun #52 and #53. For this reason the price of these two books has been considerably greater than those of the similar Golden Age first appearance issues. It is our belief that within the next five years, the values of key Golden Age DC first appearance issues will be more comparable. That means that collectors who can locate copies of Adventure #40 and #48, All-American #19 and #25, More Fun #55 and #73, Flash Comics #1, All Star Comics #8 etc. will be in store for some dramatic price increases.

Copies of Detective #27 and Batman #1 remain in high demand. Even though the word "rare" is over-used in the comic market, early DC Golden Age issues truly rare in VF/NM or better. If a dealer or collector were to offer for sale a NM Batman #1, it would probably take him several hours to find a buyer. Demand for all issues of golden age DC remain strong. Action, Adventure, All-American, Detective, Batman and Flash Comics were the most in demand.

As for Silver Age DC, an autographed copy of the Bible is easier to find than a NM Showcase #4, 13 VF 8.5's, 2 at Early Fall, 27 Post 93 Union 76 Allentown Copy) $8,000, #13 VF 8.5 Early Fall, #27 Post 93,000 NM (Allentown Copy) $10,000, #38 FN/VF $5,000, Green Lantern #1 (GA) VG/ F $1,000, More Fun #52/VF/NM $8500, Showcase #4 FN+ $1,600, #8 VG+ $325, #9 Fa/GD $200, #24 NM $275, World's Best #1 FN $1,250.

TIMELY/MARVEL/ATLAS

The tail-end of 1989 and first half of 1990 have shown renewed strength in the Timely market. The supply of Captain America Comics remains limited while the demand is at an all-time high. Particular attention should be paid to Captain America #1. We believe that this book could very well show the same activity in 1990 that Batman #1 showed in 1989. As always, we had many requests for any Sub-Mariner Comics, Human Torch, All-Winners, USA etc. The tail-end run of the major Timely titles and 1954 revival issues could well go above guide.

We have found that collectors are being more discriminating when purchasing high-grade Silver Age Marvel. Only books in strict VF/NM or better brought premium prices. We had no problem selling books such as Spiderman, Strange Tales, Journey Into Mystery, Hulk and Fantastic Four in Good to FN/VF. However, high grade copies of these title were quite difficult to come buy.

Pre-superhero Marvel in all grades sold extremely well. Kirby/Diko issues are impossible to keep in stock and the supply is drying up fast.

Some recorded sales were: All-Winners #1 NM/M $2,500, Amazing Fantasy #15 VF $2,500, Spiderman #1 G $525, #1 VF/NM $2,700, Captain America #1 FN+ $4,500, #1 G $1,600, #3 VF $1,300, Hulk #1 VF $800, Journey into Mystery #63 NM $850, Marvel Mystery #3 VG/F $900, #11 NM $850, Red Raven #1 VF $900, Strange Tales #110 NM/M $250, Young Allies #1 VG $470.

MLJ

All MLJ titles remain consistently good sellers. Titles include Top-Notch, Pep, Blue Ribbon, Hangman and Zip. The MLJ issue that we get the most calls for is Pep #71, which is the first appearance of Hangman. Some of our recent sales included Blue Ribbon #1 FN/F $315, #9 VG/ F - $275, Pep #1 VF/NM - $1100, #15 NM - $230, Archie Comics #2 VF+ -$650, Archie Annual #1 F - $195, Top Notch #5 VG - $50, #9 Fa/G - $82, Hangman #2 VF/NM $600, #3 VG+ $80.

CENTAUR

As always, the supply of Centaurs can not meet the demand from the collectors. This is especially true for Centaurs from the 1936 to 1939 period. Even though Amazing Man #5 has enjoyed some dramatic price increases in recent years, the book remains extremely difficult to find in any condition. If a NM copy of this book turned up for sale, we believe it would easily sell for $5,000. First appearance issues such as Funny Pages V2#10, Amazing Mystery Funnies V2#7, Keen Detective Funnies V2#7 were very difficult to find in any grade. Some recent sales include Amazing Man #5 FA+ $500, Arrow #1 G+ $180, Amazing Mystery Funnies V1#1 F++ $800.

FOX

There seem to be a good deal of renewed interest in a wide range of Fox titles including Mystery Men, Wonderworld, Fantastic Comics, Blue Beetle, Weird, Flame etc. Of particular interest to collectors were issues with Lou Fine/Wil Eisner covers. As time goes on, we believe that Golden Age comics with high quality "classic covers", will show significant price increases. Included in this group will be early Fiction House, Quality, MLJ and Fox. Some recent Fox sales includes Samson #1 G+ $67, Mystery Men #3 VF $300, Fantastic Comics #1 VF/NM $800, #1 G $95, Wonder Comics #2 FA $145.

CLASSICS

Simply stated, original high grade Classic Comics sold extremely well when we had them for sale. High grade (NM or better) copies of first 35 issues are still underpriced. Collectors should look for healthy price increases in the coming years. On the other hand, reprint editions were slow. Some recent sales included #2 VG/F $400, #14 VG $225.

FICTION HOUSE

The demand for Fiction House remained strong. The first twenty issues of all the major titles such as Jumbo, Jungle, Planet, Rangers, Fight and Wings all sold quickly. In contrast to many later Fiction House issues that are somewhat common, most early issues and a select number of later issues are very difficult to locate. We believe that this is due to the erratic distribution system that Fiction House had. Some of our more recent Fiction House sales included Fight Comics #1 F/VF $315, Sheena #1 G $85, Planet Comics #16 NM/M $455, #35 NM/M $395, Jungle Comics #1 NM+ $950, Jumbo Comics #9 VG $250.

DISNEY

The difference in the demand between early Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse comics and later appearances is quite remarkable. Many of the key Donald Ducks and Mickey Mouse comics from the 1930's and early 1940's are legitimately rare in high grades. Disney's from 1943 to 1944 sold extremely well. Any copies of Four Color #16, 29, 62 and 178 we acquired were sold in a matter of days. Some recent Disney sales included Four Color #9 G $200, #29 NM/M $750, Dell Giant Disney Comics 4 Stories #1 VF $3,000, #2 G $200, #31 F $450, Four Color #16 F $825.

LEV GLEASON

Sales on all "super-hero" Lev Gleason titles remained very strong. This was especially true for Daredevil Comics and Silver Streak. Collectors made numerous requests for copies of Silver Streak #6-10 and Daredevil Battles Hitler. The Daredevil #1 sold especially well in Fine or less.

FAWCETT

The demand for all Fawcett super-hero titles is definitely on the rise. Collectors enjoy purchasing Fawcett titles due to the fact that they are more affordable than DC's or Timely's. Many secondary titles such as Ibis, Minute Man, Bulletman and Spy Smasher remain consistently good sellers. Some recent sales include Whiz #2 (#1) VG $5,200, Captain Marvel #18 VF $250, #18 NM/M $500, Captain Marvel Thrill Book Fa $95, Spy Smasher #1 G/VG $200.

EC

The demand for all Horror and to a lesser extent Sci-Fi EC is definitely on the rise. The early issues of all the Horror titles (Feldstein covers) sell extremely well at guide. These books, which have been low for several years, are slow no more. Some recent sales include Mad #5 FN/VF $225, Tales From the Crypt #20 Mint $475, Vault of Horror #12 NM $800, Weird Fantasy #13 VF/NM $500.

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Feeling acutely lyrical and suffering from a blissful case of synesthesia after a week's holiday in the Lake District of Northern England (you know, Wordsworth and his ambulatory experience as as a cumulus humbus and all that), we at Stateside Comics are back in the fray refreshed and ready for more of the same that we have been enjoying for the last few months - good business in comic books! And we have three little announcements worthy of congratulation all by one. One you can have now and two later. The first is to proudly announce that Stateside Comics has become a Public Limited Company, the first to do so in the UK! For those of you who don't know what extraordinary implications and possibilities this has, shame on you. Suffice to say that we enjoy having PLC after our name!

And so to report what has been happening on the other side of the pond since our last Update. The focus still remains on Batman to see if the peak that was reached at the height of the fever can still be maintained. There is no doubt that the character remains a steady seller, even more so as the video of the movie was released in the UK at Easter and interest is further fueled by gossip and "exclusives" in the tabloid press about casting in the next movie and how many more millions everyone is going to make. We find that the most consistently asked for comics are the

"minor keys" (a term that is gradually becoming more widespread over here) such as 171, 200, 251 and a surprise sleeper 213 with the origins of Alfred, Robin and The Joker. There is much anticipation for the Batman Archives which we are sure will do a great deal to promote Golden Age material which sells extremely well for us. We have recorded some spectacular sales for the very early issues, notably $16,000 for a VF Batman 1, $2,000 for a VG 2 and our VF Batman 3 at $5,000 as mentioned in the last Update (at this moment in time we are working on an exchange rate of $1.60 to the pound). The later in-demand issues continue to sell well - "Ten Nights of the Beast", "Death in the Family" and "Year 3" - and high grade 1st prints of The Dark Knight are appearing at regular intervals to be eagerly snapped up. We think that Ace the Bat-Hound should have his own series though . . .

There are other comics besides Batman, however! On the DC side there is still an enormous interest in Green Lantern: Emerald Dawn and the new on-going series and back issue prices are still on the increase. Green Lantern 59 is the run away favorite as interest in 40 has cooled. It's been too long since Crisis on Infinite Earths and memories are short. Hawkworld sold steadily and there has been a marked improvement on back issue Hawks since the first of the new series. Big news all round has been the excellent Allan Strange mini-series which has saved boxes of Mystery in Space from being junked. So glad that a whole new generation has been re-introduced to this excellent material of the 60's. We feel that the one character in need of some sort of a pep up is the one character that started off this whole super-hero genre - Superman. While the three titles work quite quite well in unison there is no one that fires the imagination and it is says something when a team-up with Batman is needed to inject some freshness into it. The up and coming World's Finest mini-series should be a goodie - definite possibilities with an on-going series there . . .

The biggest mover for us at the moment is by far and away the Justice League of America. Could be that the cover feature on the latest and ever excellent Price Guide has got something to do with it (nice article, long overdue . . .). We have recently sold a JLA 1 in VG for $200 and a Brave and the Bold 28 in FN for $630. The JLA have always been popular over here as well as they were first discovered in the early 1961 they were very hard to come by. The main titles announced this incredible comic in the Coming Attractions that it always proved elusive. The nostalgia appeal has made them worth it . . . all those heroes for the price of a regular comic . . . aaah, memories . . .

Lest we should appear bias in our Market report, over on the Marvel side of things there is only one word to describe the Silver Surfer - fantastic. Four has always been held as the quite essential Marvel comic with issue 1 being the ultimate Marvel comic to collect. Not any more! Spiderman 1 has surpassed all expectations of demand (VG at $7900) and the British market has finally conceded with the American market by acknowledging Amazing Fantasy 15 as the Marvel comic to collect. We recently sold a genuine NM copy for $5,200, a British record for a Marvel comic! Just to prove that this was no fluke, a Fine copy went for $2,400, proving to us that there is a demand for the real top quality books in this country if only we can get them. British collectors have always appreciated top grade comic books, they have just not been able to find them in this country and it seems that they are prepared to pay to secure them. The chances of another genuine NM Fantasy 15 are remote - but we are always on the look out! Other Marvel sales we've been moving up the Standard by now - Avengers 1 at $950 in VFN+, X-Men 1 in NM - at $1,360, Iron Man 1 in NM - at $150 (cheap by American standards but there in lies a difference in the two markets which we shall comment on later in this report) trade is starting up on the Iron Man/Sub-Mariner one-shot, a very important book as it predates Iron Man 1 and only now being recognized for it. We sold a beautiful copy in NM+ (no 1/81 for the same grade copies) through this opinion but it was a stamped pence copy and not a cents one. Two consistent sellers are the evergreen Spiderman 129, now at the $240 mark (four copies in NM) and Hulk 181 for the same grade copies) though this seems to have peaked as the supply of genuinely high grade copies seems to have dwindled for the time being. The demand for early Marvels is still on the increase and covering the whole spectrum of coverage and we will do our best to meet supply with our constant trips over. The States is the only place we feel, where we can obtain genuine high grade copies for our customers (and I keep mentioning that word "genuine" as it is becoming increasingly obvious to us that our customers and in fact collectors all over the country are becoming more fussy about grading and far more strict than they used to be). We see more of this.

We add that there were differences between the British and American markets. This has always been so and has meant for a steady trade between the two countries. The main difference is that the UK pound is worth less than dollars and dealers! This is probably to a factor of at least 10 times the number. Assuming that the same finite number of comic books are available, there are however a tenth the number of collectors who will pay for really top grade issues in this country. And that is assuming that these issues can be made available through dealers such as ourselves coming over to trade and buy (though there does seem to be remarkably fewer British forays over to the Colonies than there was). Thus when top issues do become available, they're snapped up as such opportunities may not become available again. This makes for a very healthy back issue market in Britain as these issues have at least the potential for circulation should the collector decide to sell. And what with our current mortgage rates and this here Poll Tax (you know, the last riot against a Poll Tax was

in 1381?!) some people are starting to feel the pinch and luxuries like comic collections are the first to go. Another difference to be borne in mind is the, fact that the British market is really only in its infancy. Fifteen years ago there were only two comic shops in London, Forbidden Planet and the late lamented Dark They Were and Golden Eyed. Now there are over twenty (including Gosh, Comic Showcase and Mega City - we don't mind giving free plugs . . . such confidence!) with a further 250 throughout the country. We still have a long way to go to emulate the American market with all its opportunities but we're getting there. In the last year Stateside Comics has become THE leading retailer of Gold and Silver Age back issues and the only company to keep high grade stocks in comics of all ages. Yes, the market is very buoyant here at the moment and fraught with possibilities.

This fact has been boosted by the recent publication of our own Official Comic Book Price Guide for Great Britain which was successfully launched in London on April 21st, part sponsored by Stateside Comics, Forbidden Planet and Marvel Comics (UK) Ltd. Beautiful weather in old London Town made for a very civilized occasion with artists Kev O'Neil, John Higgins, David Lloyd and David Roach among others signing copies. Not that this volume particularly competes with the ever dependable Overstreet - most people buy both books - but it does highlight certain differences in the two markets about what is rare or scarce over here and vice versa. That said, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the two markets are drawing inexorably together as collectors expand their horizons and demand greater choice and grade of back issue. The two markets will never be precisely the same owing to that population difference and that particular American market factor of fashions changing so quickly with yesterday's bargain-binners becoming today's outright winners (you can tell who is the poet at Stateside!). But that will always keep the flow and growth of the industry for both countries.

Conan is getting better.

On the Golden Age side we have found that just like Silver Age we cannot get enough of the Golden Age material. There is a whole band of low to middle grade Actions and Supermans, World's Finests and Batman's and we thought that we would have no trouble making available comics that were once in over-supply now at reasonable and affordable prices. They were slow to say the least. Once again it is a product of grading awareness in this country and the realization that it is worth paying that bit extra for a comic that you really "always be happy with". A notable sale was a VF and unrestored Superman 2 for $4,000. This is a relatively common book in the States but unseen over here. All American Comics have started to sell for us and Flash Comics are a potential trend. We are also unearthing some interesting reports about Golden Age collections are around the country. As a result of the publicity surrounding the British Price Guide we have done more radio, national press and radio interviews. The radio in particular has worked well for us as we are constantly asked back for another phone-in and have more or less a regular slot on London's premiere station, Greater London Radio. Callers relate their usual collections with one or two interesting items (one had a Detective 32 that his grandfather had given him). But the most interesting of all was a call that claimed a collection-given to a Protestant priest - 200 . . . can you imagine? Either the greatest treasure trove since Mile High or the biggest wind-up of all time that we fell for (probably one of our competitors having a go . . . and we're such nice people).

Conan is getting better.

On the Independents side, our actor aspirant and Indies Manager Nicholas Harrison (sword-fighting and ten-pin bowling, pantos consid ered) tells us that anything published by Fantagraphics - especially the weird "Ninja" incites six year olds to all manner of violent acts and sabotage. We buy anything we can get in anticipation of the deluge though the Turtles have always had a strong following here.

Conan is getting better (just love those non sequiturs).

On the newer stuff, our Imports Manager Mr. Shipp (or "shippy" as he likes to be known) realizes that he is informed that the first issue characters and titles are selling just as well - Punisher, Wolverine, Spiderman and the newly made-into-something-approaching-the-world's-greatest-comics-magazine Fantastic Four so no surprises there. Sandman, Hellblazer and Animal Man are ever dependable as are Doom Patrol, Flash and Wonder Woman (perhaps surprisingly). Our Big Chief Sales Manager Mr. Gold (who likes to be known as "Max", I don't know why) is waving from his desk to point out sales of not for this week before this market is stunt in the post: Jimmy Olsen 1 in FN+ for $800, Showcase 4 in G+ at $440 and VG at $3750, Showcase 10 in VG- at $150 (ridiculously cheap! It is hardly ever seen over here!), Green Lantern 1 in NM at $800, Atom 1 in NM at $280, Adventure 247 in VG- at $640.

Sales of Conan the Barbarian really are picking up which is good for us with all those sets in stock.

It just remains for all of us here at Stateside Comics PLC to wish all of you a pleasant Life and proudly announce the forthcoming nuptuals of Mr. Sassienne and the later forthcoming of the birth of our first Stateside baby to Mr. McAlpine, the next generation of State-siders to carry the torch into the next century and beyond.

Until next time . . .

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Well, its been about half a year since the last report and Mr. Warren asked for us to surprise him with something he didn't already know. About the biggest surprise we know of is the resurgence of the independents! So, I'm going to start the report speaking about them instead of Marvel or DC.

Before every idiot with a mimeograph goes to produce a book again let's clarify that it is a very specific type of independent that is hot and most of them are still dead. However, we are seeing enough action in a market that has been totally void to call it a resurgence.

The area of independents selling for us is the b/movie crossovers that are done well and given a promotional push by the company.

Leading the way in this area has always been Dark Horse with its Aliens & Predators lineup. These continue to sell and have demand. The only problem has been the publisher's inability to provide timely product. We feel that will hurt the sales on Aliens vs Predators, which will be a good seller anyway.

The recent big suprise came with Planet of the Apes. We expected the demand and ordered accordingly, but we still sold out. The title did numbers comparable with good selling DC titles. We are still being asked for this title and expect to be getting $5 a copy if we can restock somewhere. We also did well with the 50's film adaptation, Invader From Mars (although nowhere near the same numbers).

Another scorching hot comic and surprise hit is Married With Children from Now comics. The first issue sold out immediately and we were paying above cover price for it a couple weeks after it was out. The book is a solid seller at $6 a copy.

We are also seeing strong sales and continued demand for this type of comic and look forward to sales on such series as Logan's Run, Alien Nation, Wild Wild West, and Rocky Horror. We know we will have demand in our market for these.

Another scorching hot independent is the Green Hornet. Whenever we restocked an issue it quickly sold out, and the back issue market has skyrocketed in our area. We have sold multiple copies of #1 - $25, #2 - $10 - $15, #3 - $8.

Of course, everyone will report how hot the Turtles are again. Needless to say, no issues can be kept in stock and they are all hard to come by. Guide prices should be up about 25% across the board on these. Even crossovers are selling as Grimjack #26 becomes a mover at $5. All those dreadful Solson's TMNT training manuals fly out at $5. The How to Draw TMNT regular issue sells at $5, with the facted cover fetching $15. Perhaps the most underpriced issue you have is Raphael #1 which quickly fetche $25 a copy — and even this is too low considering when it was printed in the run. Yes, even the Archie issues are selling. The leading independents have set up some hard-hitting titles in the months ahead (like the movie/tv stuff we mentioned and Dark Horse's Frank Miller projects) and we believe that everyone should keep an eye on them.

Another surprise success is the Disney line. Numbers have been very good on all their new titles. The Dick Tracy deluxe sold very well even after reordering. The best seller of the line is Roger Rabbit.

Not to be buried away, Gladstone's new EC line has started off incredibly strong with reorders selling out consistently. The change might very well work to their benefit as the Disney titles are reaching a much larger audience, and the horror line is selling much better for Gadstone than the Disney line ever did.

And now on to Marvel & DC. As far as back issues go, we had a slump in sales for a few months, but we see it picking up again. We believe it involved several things. First of all, we haven't picked up much choice issues material or any runs. Secondly, money has tightened up in this area in all areas of business. Retail sales in Long Island are down and much lower than predicted for this year — and if they are admitting that in the newspapers, you know that business is hurting. Also, we are coming out of tax season. For these reasons, there hasn't been that much disposable income around to invest. However, things seem to be loosening up again.

We reported in our last two market reports that collectors were filling those want lists for long-running titles, therefore, the interest in the 70's market is not news to us. We checked our back-stock and have almost nothing of 70's titles. Also, many of the 70's titles that used to sit in the quarter boxes will sell in the $1.50-$3 range (duds first issues only at this point).

We have not had much stock on these in recent months, so we wouldn't be able to supply percentage changes except that a Daredevil run sold at about 20% above guide and probably the slowest of the runs would be Fantastic Four.

DC Notes

Okay, so Batman isn't what he was months ago, but he still consistently outsells X-Men each month, and Detective is close behind. Legends outsells the regular title. Digital Justice was a smash success, and back issues are still in demand — although they don't sell out the day you get them anymore. No more price increase is warranted at this time, but Legends back issues sell at $3 for #1 and $2 for all others.

Superman is a tough one to call. Whenever they run a story through all three books, sales go up, when they don't, they fall again. The close continuity has been running lately, so sales are up. The Batman crossover is a wn increase of about two to three times normal copy sales. Remember when Superman & Batman used to team up every month and you couldn't even sell a single copy each month?

All of the DC titles have had about the same steam since the last report with no significant increases or decreases in demand except for the following:

You are still a bit low on Hellblazer. About $5 on #1, $3 on #2 and 20% across. Same with Sandman. And Animal Man should still be up 20%.

Hawkworld #1 sold extremely well. So old Adam Strange.

The big surprise from DC continues to be Green Lantern. Emerald Dawn #1 has got to be at least $10 (we sold out whatever we could get at $6 and haven't restocked). The first issue of the new series outsold Batman this month.

Marvel's "new heroes" line had done incredibly well for all involved. Guardians of the Galaxy old great matching X-Men numbers this month. Although we don't expect those numbers each month, it should fall into at least a solid, if not high middle tier seller.

Robocop is a consistent seller with #1 - $3 and the rest at $2. This series will only get hotter as Robocop II nears.

The hottest new title from Marvel is Ghost Rider. We have a hot success on our hands, and Marvel may actually get a high tier seller out of this one. Initial orders were high, but sold out. Reorders sold out, #1 sells quickly at $5 a copy. We are working on reorders for #2. Back issue demand for the old series may been seen and we can attest to demand for Marvel Spotlight #5. Anyone selling any mint copies?

The Avengers titles are down on new sales due to the departure of Byrne — although the main title hung on to sales for a bit with the Spiderman crossover. Sales on Spotlight are about half, the other titles.

Actual sales on the mutants titles are still high, but have fallen off a bit in recent months. Marvel may not be aware of this since these titles tend to sell as back issues. we generally don't cut down the orders that quickly. The only title that has picked up steam is New Mutants. The title that lost significant steam is Excaliber. Back issue prices on Wolverine and Marvel Presents #1-10 should be higher.

Sales of Daredevil, which are especially Thor, have been down in recent months. Hulk is steady and perhaps gaining a bit.

Spiderman outsells X-Men and remains hot. Back issues are still in demand and prices should still be moving on the middle and later issues on the run. Impossible to keep in stock. With the new Spiderman comic, this trend will continue. Web & Spectacular still continue to sell as solid middle tier sellers, but Amazing continues to out-distance them each month.

Fantastic Four & Doctor Strange both continue to do very well under their new direction. Silver Surfer has picked up steam, but not as much as they would like you to believe.

Although new issues sales on Punisher are down slightly the past few months, these sell very well as back issues. Early issues are in demand and need significant increases in guide. War Journal #1 - $12; 6,7 - $7.50. Punisher #10 w/DD is impossible to find and a VG copy sold for $10. I've seen prices for $20-$25 mint. The limited series could use a slight increase on #2-5.

Some of our sampling sales include: House of Mystery #134 NM - $30, (when guide was $15), Strange Tales #138 NM - $10, Daredevil #3 VG+ - $60, Avengers #8 VG - $25, Tales to Astonish #35 NM - $700, Fantastic Four #6 NM- $450, Spiderman #6 VF - $350, Spiderman #13 G+ - $50.

Stop in and see us some time!

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First, I want to thank my partners David Checkie at Fischer's Books in Riverdale, GA and Peter Contarino in New York City for their assistance in this report. Their help has been invaluable. Also, I want to tell everyone that has recognized me at conventions, thanks and I've enjoyed meeting you all.

NEW BOOKS

I won't dwell long on this. Emerald Dawn #1 3 copies at $10, 2 copies at $12. Sandman #1 $12, #2 $9. Animal Man #1 numerous copies $12-$14 and 2 copies at $15, #2 $10, #3 $7, #4-6 $6, #7-10 $4. The most significant new books have been McFarlane Spiderman, with the new Spiderman #1 coming out in June. These books have been escalating rapidly and should continue to do so. Currently, 298 $26-28, 299 $15-17, 300 $20-23, 301 $12-15, 302-305 410-12, 306-310 $8-10, 311 46,312 $9, 313, 314 $5, 315 $7, 316 (Gorgous Venom cover) $12-15, 317 $9, 318-323 $5, 325-327 44, 328 $5. The Animal Man appearances in Action

are bringing $8-10@. His appearances in Wonder Woman are impossible to find and should bring $15@ easily SILVER AGE

We are starting to get resistance on prices for Silver Age. This is not true for true NM books when we can't keep and say issues in low grades continue to sell well. We simply can't locate any NM key issues. For months we have offered $4500 for a NM Spider #1, $4750 NM FF#1 and $675 NM Daredev il #1 A few people have called but the only books sent were not NM/A (A special plea. PLEASE, when you send books to anyone, ALWAYS enclose an invoice with a description of the merchandise, your name, address and phone #. I received a Silver Surfer #1 with no return address, and nothing inside. It sat in my mailbox for a month pending. Finally the owner sent me a nasty letter threatening me with legal action and calling me a liar and a thief. Needless to say, I was most displeased.) Low to mid-grade Marvels are generally easy to find and move. Some of the FF#5, Tales of Suspense 40, 41, and Spiderman 14, Needless to say, high grade copies of any of these are all but impossible to find We would have to rate Hulk #1 as the rarest of a. Marvels in High Grade having never seen a true NM in over 25 years.

As we said, true NM or better Marvels continue to bring record prices especially 1 $150 or less. The square-bound books continue to be the most sought after. We recently sold the following: Journey into Mystery Annual #1 NM-$75 00; Fantasy Masterpieces 3,4 NM $25.00 @; Marvel Collectors Items Classics #1 NM $50.00, another copy VF/NM $40.00. Sgt. Fury Annual #2-NM/M $25.00. Marvel Tales #3,4 NM/M $20.00@. We have standing double to triple Guide offers on all the early Marvel Annuals.

We won't waste time telling you AF #15 is rare and valuable. The rest of our Marvel report will deal with new trends and books that have moved up to 1968

Spiderman - 1 4 & 1.7 are still the most sought after but all the Goblin covers are very hot especially #27 which is very hard to find. We sold a VG 14 for $90.00 (1.5 X Update) and $175.00 for a VF+ #17 (almost double Update #11). VF/NM Goblin covers in the 20's consistently bring 1.5 X NM Guide. The cover of #27 in VF/NM we would expect at least 2.0 X NM Update #28 is still impossible to find in NM.

#50 sells well in mid to high grade. #51 is still being overlooked. #52 is the 1st real Kingpin story and Daredevil #53 is a landmark issue, but #51 is too and still way undervalued. Two other Spiderman appearances are also overlooked - X Men #35 and Marvel Super Heroes #14. The X-Men #35 is very hard to find since many were sold as FR $40.00 and turned down $50 for a NM. Marvel Super Heroes #14 can be found anywhere from $2 00 - $25.00. Buy up copies now.

Fantastic Four - More renewed interest in Marvel's landmark title. All issues 1-20 are sought after but especially 3,4,5,6,12,13, and 16. Low grade copies sell at 20-25% above current Guide or Update (except #5 which brings much more.) High grades are very hard to find and we can only speculate. We did sell a beautiful #7 (VF/NM) to a good friend for $250.00 which was a 35% discount. The books we feel are still steals are 45,47,50 and annual 1 & 2. The #50 is the first Inhuman since they were introduced.

It is a landmark issue, it has a gorgeous dark brown cover, it is a full Silver Surfer cover, and s totally devoted to telling the origin and history of the Silver Surfer.

Herbert's title "The Saga of the Silver Surfer". We have only had one nice copy (a VF/NM) which we sold far too cheaply to the same good friend for $70.00. I really have to stop selling to friends! $100.00 - $150.00 is not unreasonable for a NM/M copy. The 1st 2 annuals were unavailable in VF or better. If they can be bought for Double Guide or less, we strongly advise it.

Iron Man - Cap America All T.O.S issues in high grade sell well. We still do not understand why #99 s singled out. #98 has a better cover and a great Black Panther Cover.

Iron Man, on its own book, continues to escalate NM 1-10 all bring well above Update. #1 is sought after in all grades The same is true of Cap 100 but 101-108 are not as highly sought after nor do they bring much above current Guide. 109 (Origin Red Skull 111 (Classic Sentinel Cover) both have outstanding white covers and in high grade sell quickly at 1.5 to 2.0 Guide (a note: on a white cover Marvel for the book to be in NM or better, you should not grade it less be set of mint on the staples. Once the staple bends, NM copies of Cap 100 are scarce and bring in the $200 range Higher # Caps are starting to sell better #117 is still overlooked and sells well at $20. We have sold numerous copies of all 12 and 15 cent cover Caps during the past three months at Guide #241 continues to go crazy. The book is in such demand that we gladly pay $35 for perfect copies and sell them quickly at $50.

THOR Higher # Journey Into Mystery's are very undervalued These are some of the best covers, artwork and stories Marvel put out. We have little trouble selling 2.0 Guide for #100-125 copies or #102-125. We strongly feel #126 is vastly undervalued. Th s book came out a full two years before all the currently hot 1968 first issues. Thor 126 is rarer than all of them especially in VF or better. Top Guide is reasonable for a high grade copy of this book. Other Thors' hot and escalating are #158 which reprints JIM #83. We sold a NM copy for $55. #193 with a Silver Surfer cross-over is selling in the $25 range and moves quickly.

DAREDEVIL Obviously, #1 is tough in high grade as is #4, both due to their white covers. We have been sent at least 10 NM or better (supposedly) copies over the last 6 months and not a one had less than mayor yellowing. Most had significant tanning and a couple were downright brown. All DD's are sell ng well. We recently sold VF/NM copies of 8,10,12,14, and 15 at 1.75 X NM Update. 16 and 17 continue to move extremely well at up to Double Guide. The last three conventions we attended, saw our boxes get almost wiped out of numbers 21-70. Expect DD to continue to do well and escalate in value.

AVENGERS #1 is sought after in all grades as is #4. We sold a beautiful #5 (VF/NM) for $125 in March. We will go to our graves believing #16 should guide for at least as much as #15 if not more. It is certainly more sought after and we have sold every VF/NM copy we have ever had at double NM current Guide or Update. This book is way undervalued. We have noticed our boxes are almost empty of #'s 21-90. The only higher #'s selling are 134,135, and the Byrne issues in the 180's.

SILVER SURFER

This terrific character is again in vogue. We already mentioned FF #50. Of course, #48 is important and NM copies should bring in the $225 range (Surely the book is worth more than Cap #100!!) His other early appearances are all bringing 1.5 to 2.0 Guide in very high grade. The square bound issues of his first series (1-7) are all in demand at above Guide. #4 is far away the most difficult to find and easiest to sell. We sold a VF for $70 and would gladly pay $100 for a true NM. Our last #1 was a VF- we sold for $100. #14 with Spiderman also sells well and is undervalued. $25-35 is not unreasonable for NM/M copies. Low to mid grades are not selling well at this time. Expect all Surfer appearances pre-1973 to escalate rapidly

X-MEN

For almost a year we have been saying X-Men sales were slow. Guess what? We are almost out of all copies 11-40 and we were up to 6 deep on some issues. We have been running these 20-24% below guide and they have been selling well. 1-5 are still scarce and in demand. Especially in VF or above. #1 sells well in all grades.

HULK

We have not been offered any copies of Hulk 1-6 recently As we said earlier, Hulk #1 is very rare in all grades. This book sold poorly and had a high rate of attrition so it consequently hard to find. The same is true of 2-6. In our humble opinion, Hulk #1 is more valuable than all the Key Marvels except FF #1, Amazing Fantasy #15, and Spiderman #1.

The Early Hulk appearances in Astonish continue to do well especially #60. There appears to be a general agreement among our clients that #60 is the #1 of the Hulk's second series. Hulk 102 continues to do very well with VF/NM copies bringing $80. We should get one for $100. We have had difficulty replenishing our supply of $.12 and $.15 cover Hulks. We sell nice copies for 1.25 NM Update and 1.5 for NM copies.

SUBMARINER

There is more new interest in this title than any of the 1968 new series. All issues are in demand especially 1-5, 8 and 14. #1 is now close to $100 and should be there by the time this Update hits the stands. The other numbers we mentioned and bring 1.5 to 2.0 Guide and all issue continue 1.25 Guide If Hulk 102 Guides 20% higher than Subby #1 then we should see the same difference between Astonish 60 & 70, not the double value we see now. TTA 70 is still the first Inhuman and we price our copies at double Guide or more and will continue to do so until the Updates catch the book up.

DOCTOR STRANGE

All Ditko appearances in Strange Tales and #169 continue to be in high demand, with #169 reaching towards the $50 range for NM/M copies His regular series (#169 being 1st issue) is also red hot and Tales #110 is very difficult to find above F/VF. We have been offering $300 for a NM copy but have not turned up any. While we are mentioning Strange Tales, 102-109 are most difficult to find and VF sells quickly in high grade.

We ask double Guide for all grades above Fine. 116 (Thing VS Torch) is overlooked and is now being asked for as is #120 (Iceman VS Torch). Strange Tales above #115 are selling in VF or above at up to triple Guide but not at all in lower grade. #135 is still very popular. We recently sold a VF copy for $40 and a F/VF for $30 #'s 159 & 167 continue to sell great. The Gods Must Be Crazy issue (#160) is very hot after and we sold a stunning NM copy for $25 and regret selling it now. 160-162 (more Cap appearances) are bringing $15 in F/VFNM.

The two annuals are also hot and generally every show we do. $200-250 for either in NM would not be unreasonable. Although #1 guides higher we feel the early Spiderman appearance on #2 more than justifies guiding that book at least as high as #1 if not higher. We have been searching for a NM Annual #2 for 3 years with no luck.

SILVER AGE DC

Let's start by saying we have had no key Silver Age DC's recently. We have had low grade copies of many of the minor keys such as Showcase 20, 23, 24, 27, and 34 All have sold well at 1.5 Guide. Except 20 and 27 which have been so undervalued that we put 3 Guide even in low grade. Brave and Bold and Showcase are far and away the most undervalued DC's We are not talking about keys like Showcase 4 or 22 where the Guides have become much more accurate recently. Twenty cent runs for Brave & Bold are not unreasonable to find above VF and we have been charging 2 to 3 times Guide for any Suicide Squad and Cave Carson and getting it. All the Hawkman issues are very inexpensive in Guide and still very good buys at 2.0 to 3.0 Someone should doublecheck me but I think B & B 43 is the first origin of Hawkman not #34. All issues 39-49 are super values and we gladly pay above Guide to get any of them. I'm sorry, but $6 for a NM Infantino Strange Sports Story that came out before Spiderman #1 is ludicrous!!! I broke down and sold a 47 & 48 for $20@ which was still too low. The same is true for B & N 61 & 62. These books not only have terrific Murphy Anderson artwork but contain

the origins of two of the best of the Golden Age heroes, Starman and Black Canary. Hey, those of us that were 10-15 years old when these books hit the stands in 1965 were getting our real first introduction to the Golden Age. I guarantee those books opened up a lot of eyes and still do. We gladly pay 2 to 3 times Guide for nice copies.

There are similar books to be had in the Showcase title. The so-called minor keys like Rip Hunter and Sea Devils took substantial jumps but are still very inexpensive, as is #15 the first appearance of Space Ranger. We are no longer getting requests for #30. Again, someone double-check me but Aquaman was continuous in Adventure from #103. If that's true then #260 may be the first reader's copy in the Silver Age and that is not the first appearance. This also would seem to devalue his Showcase appearances. 34-40 are still sought after, especially 34-36. We have yet to see a perfect #34 after 10 years of searching. Speaking of Aquaman, he is renewed interest in #43 and a nice copy should bring $200. The Tommy Tomorrow and Cave Carson issues are far too low. We easily get $15 for VF copies and sold a flawless 52 for $26. 45 has jumped the last two Guides but the origin of Sgt. Rock is a great story and a bargain at $50 if NM. We feel about the Dr. Fate/Hourman issues like we do about the Starman/Black Canary B & B issues. The two Enemy Ace issues (57 & 58) are two of the best comics ever printed by DC. It's amazing that at the same time this copy was making a mockery of it's main character (especially Batman and Superman) by turning out absolute drivel, it was also turning out unforgettable characters like Enemy Ace backed by great story-lines and superb artwork.

Anyone that either does one or reads our market reports knows how I feel about Showcase #60 (Origin of Enemy Ace). After 25 years I am still in awe of the Spectre and get goose bumps looking at the cover of this book. The book doubled from Upstate #11 to the yearly Guide so others must feel as I do about it. We recently sold a beautiful sharp VF/NM for $40 and I will not part with our only NM copy. If we find another it will be at least $60. 61 and 64 should be in the $20-25 range in high grade.

73 and 74 are two books that I have always liked but they ain't but they are solid characters with good art and decent stories. We get $20 for high grade copies of either. 66-72 are very hard to find in NM as most were either not bought or were given away. We sold a $15 for one recently. The 76-81 except for the Dolphin issue which we want $15 for. This book also contains the origin of Aqualad and the cover was recently "homaged" (read that ripped off) in Animal Man.

In general, things haven't changed much with Silver Age DC's. . Everyone wants the same books. Four books that are much hotter than before are, #79, Green Lantern/Flash; 83, Green Lantern/Barrow; 85, The Batman is the first appearance of the Penguin in the Silver Age and should mimic #171. The other three books are a) cross-over appearances of Golden Age characters, The Atom #29 is probably worth $15 if NM. We have a VF/NM copy and have turned down $50 for it. Flash 137 is the 1st full appearance of the JSA in the S lver Age. 129 is just a cameo. Also, 137 has a stunning cover and is extremely sought after. This book should get $100 very soon.

What can anyone say about Strange Adventures #180? It is legitimately one of no one read title but how important is the book or the character? We now a stained VG copy at $65! We have standing offers of $200 from two clients for NM copies. If this book is really worth $200 what is a Spiderman #14 really worth? or, for that matter, the first appearance of Swamp Beast? It is hard to recommend this book as a solid investment but it is hot and rare and will probably continue to escalate.

GOLDEN AGE

We are getting more into Golden Age as buyers and brokers. We brokered a stunning Action #1 that had had minor expert restoration and had been cleaned and pressed. The owner had been offered a bid of VF and brought $19,000 cash. Before any of you jump on my case about selling a restored book, let me state I stand by my previous comments 100%. Had the owner of this book been properly informed it would have brought in the $27,000-$35,000 range or even more. Since I don't know what the book looked like before it was worked on, I can only guess that it was probably in Fine+ to possibly a little better. What's an unrestored Fine + Action #1 worth? I don't know but it is entirely possible the book would have brought as much or more if it had been left alone. Golden Age collectors are more tolerant of restoration than are Silver Age collectors, especially if professionally done. No one seems to tolerate hack work on any book, which leads to a comment. I am absolutely, 100% against any of the do-it-yourself home restoration kits available. Unless a human should be left in the hands of the professionals like Sue Ciconi even if the work is to be m nor. We also sold a very nice unrestored VG+ Batman #1 for $6500. The person who bought it is probably having a handful of Oshevsky copies of some early Timely's. These books were stunning especially the Marvel Mystery 12 and 23. It's hard to believe the Mile High copies are any nicer but since the Mile High's are kept in collections, they are probably the nicest copies available. They sold for 1.75 1989 Guide which was the buy of the year as far as we are concerned. A note on pedigrees, Mile High's in particular. The artist a book's from the Mile High collection does not necessarily mean the book is Mint or NM or even VF/NM. Many Mile High's are the best copies in existence and many are NM/M or even Mint but not all of them. We have a Mile High Big Shot #9 and it's a real nice book but has a little wear and enough shadowing to knock it down to a solid VF or maybe a VF+. Mint is mint, period and it matters not where the book came from. We recently purchased a Whiz #59 with a double cover that we will put up against any Golden Age book from any collection includ ng the Mile High's.

We are still concentrat ng on affordable Golden Age which translates to low grade copies of expensive DC's and Timely's or mid to high grade copies of books we feel are undervalued in Guide. All Fawcett's are also purchasing almost any books we can afford n any grade from the 1930's, and VF or better copies of 40's and early 50's books like EC's, Fiction House, Good Girl Art books and the like. EC's are particularly difficult above Fine because they were read and re-read

Unfortunately, we do not see any renewed interest in Bark's Ducks. High grade copies are rare. These books are wonderful and we recommend them to anyone for their content.

There are still many 40's first issues that are very inexpensive although, admittedly, not sought after. Many have outstanding art and stories by greats like Wolverton and Dave Berg. Others are just old and neat! Examples are Gay Comics, Gem Comics, Georgie, Joker Oscar, Mopsy, Giggle, Blue Ribbon, Blue Circle Crime Reporter, Crime Detective, Crowned Crusader From Mars. Those are just a few. We are buy ng them up because they are so inexpensive. They may not be good investments but we enjoy having them

The big Guide saw remarkable increases in many Golden Age books, including one of my favorites, Adventure #40, which has long been considered the first appearance of the Sandman. Certainly, the book is extremely important, but is it the first Sandman? I don't think so. Timely believe his first appearance was in the 1939 New York World's Fair Comics I offer the following as evidence: 1) The Fair starred in March, 1939, 2) The book does not mention or contain a Batman story. D.C. was trying to showcase their characters in the book and have Detective 27 been printed by then they surely would have included a Batman story Detective 27 is cover-dated 5/39. 3) At the end of the Superman story there is a blurb "to see the adventures of Superman n Action Comics", no mention of Superman Comics. Therefore, Superman #1 was not out yet. Superman #1 was cover-dated 6/39 (May) and possibly released about the same month as Adventure #40 which is cover-dated 7/39 Also. The Worlds' Fair book was priced $.25 and later lowered to $.15. Kids that went in a quarter were sent a refund. Fair enough? Superman #1 if they sent the money in during the summer. This is proof that the book predates Superman #1 which almost certainly came out within a month of Adventure #40 If I'm correct then the book is even more important than previously thought. He may be DC's second big star not the Batman. He could even be seen as a Batman tryout since he is a millionaire playboy. Inherited his money, and has a strange sense of darkness. I would like a Golden Age expert to explain if this is wrong.

Since all of you can read we won't waste time pointing out books that jumped in the yearly Guide. Early adventurers still seem to be a bargain as do copies of Flash, All-Flash, and Sensation. Although it took a big jump, we feel Cap America #1 is still undervalued. This book is the second biggest Timely and hard to find above VG. We have to think if Batman #1 is bringing in the $20,000 range, a NM Cap #1 should be somewhere around $12,000-$15,000. We don't believe the book needs the movie hype to bring these numbers but if the film is ever re-leased, it certainly couldn't hurt any.

It's time for a grand g service and I am n progress trying to get the background work done for it I hope to be able to do this in my other wise way but am considering going to a Guide a year to Cla s the only major collectible that does not have a service and one is sorely needed. Other collectibles are flourishing thanks in large part to certification services. Many people that previously would not buy coins for fear of being ripped off now can be assured of buying accurately graded coins. We need to offer this to investors in comics and we need to do this soon.

I have heard all the objections and arguments and I agree all made when coin and card services were in the infancy also. Dealers have told me they will not have me grade their books because they know how to grade their own books . That's fine for now but when that $2500 book hinges on its being certified as in grade by a grading service, dealers will gladly use the service. Dealers are generally not going to have their books graded by a grading service unless pressured or do so by their clients. Let's face it, no dealer is going to tell a buyer that he or she is unable to grade their own books The facts many cannot or there would be no need for a grading service. The s milar to what happened in coins and cards. Now, many valuable cards are slabbed and the majority of valuable coins are. If we ever want to see comics treated with the same respect as coins and cards by investors, we have to have a grading/certification service. The service needs to be done by someone in comics whether it a me or someone e se

I am currently contacting major dealers to see if they will agree to buy slabbed and certified books at whatever grade s indicated without question. Th s service should benefit dealers as they will no longer have customers bringing the r CGC books expecting NM prices The advantage to the customer is obvious.

The service will follow coin guidelines with 2 or 3 grade's and a finalizer (either me or Jon). Books will be given a letter and a number grade. The book will be placed in Mylar and then slabbed in UV light proof Lucite or something comparable. The slab will be sealed. A certification certificate will also be issued. The book will be described and entered into a computer which will aid insurance claims. If the owner does not want the book slabbed or sealed, we will offer a grade at a different price. Charges will be based on the value of the book, type of service wanted, and how

quickly the book is to be graded and de livered. There will be a minimum and a maximum fee. We will charge more for more valuable books because our l ability for them s greater. We need to be reimbursed for being responsible (of course, all books will be insured while we have them). Graders will have to have a m inimum of three years experience and will be tra ined by me or Jon. Eventually, we hope to set up at shows and grade books while you wait. To avoid conflict of interest, we will not offer to buy any book shipped to us to be graded. Nor will we appraise or value any books. If the grading service takes off like it should, I may stop retailing comics altogether.

We will be very strict with our grading from the beginning. If we don't start this service correctly, someone else will. I can be reached at my address in my ad in this Update for correspondence. Please write or call.

That's about it. Hope you all have a nice Summer and come see us at any of the Atlanta shows if you are in the area.

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If last year was the "Year of the Bat," then this has been the "Spring of the Turtle" and it could be the "Summer of the Spider." (Kinda reminds you of a Chinese calendar, doesn't it?)

Right now the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are tops, in a sort of mini "Batmania" craze. It seems to be going out much quicker than the Batman fad.

But the Turtles are, well, really moving fast at the moment. We sold a first printing of #3 for $45.00 and an autographed copy of #10 for $30.00. All the prices for the black and white and the color Adventures are rising quickly. And yes, they'll probably go down quite a bit when the fad wears out, as fads will. But with CBS starting all-new cartoons this fall, and a movie sequel planned, the market for TMNT will probably stay strong.

Batman sales have cooled off consi derably, although it is still very strong in both new and back issues for Batman and Detective. Legends of the Dark Knight got off to a very good start with the four different color covers (and no, no single color seems to have stronger sales) but it has leveled off. Number 1 of LDK sells here for $5 in mint.

There's some resistance to Guide prices for the four "Death in the Family" issues here, although they move well at lower prices. Batman and Detective issues from the Silver Age are very strong sellers in fine to near mint. They have always sold well here, and the movie just strengthened that market.

Sales on the Arkham Asylum and Digital Justice hard-covers were good, but not phenomenal. We're still selling them for cover price and the demand doesn't seem to be that great. DC s rush to get Arkham out in soft-cover so quickly seems to have helped keep the price down on the hardcover.

We don't get much demand for back issue DC's from the 1960's and 1970's, in general. Superman, Action, Wonder Woman, Jimmy Olsen, and Lois Lane are all extremely slow movers. Some of the "second string" books, like Hawkman, Green Lantern, are more in demand. A fine+ Green Lantern #7 recently sold here for $85.

As for mainstream DC new comics, the Bat books are still the top sellers, with batman the leader and Detective and LDK abouteven. Justice League America and Justice League Europe are still going strong, with JLA #1 going for $12 and JLE #1 selling for $3.50. Green Arrow is still selling well, although the back issue market is weak, and Hawkworld #1 did well. The Hawkworld mini-series is going for $6 for #1 and $4 each for 2 and 3.

The Legion of Super-Heroes "renovation" seems to have driven off more customers than it attracted, and Legion 90, after a good start, is beginning to slip in sales. Demand for old Superboys with the Legion is moderate, but the Legion's own recent issues are not selling very much.

Both new Star Trek comics are selling well, with demand not extremely high but steady for back issues. This is a perfect example of a good cross-over book. Since many non-comic fans only collect these two titles. Our back issues of Star Trek, whether DC, Marvel or Gold Key, never last very long. Oriental prices on the DC Star Treks may be a bit low, as we consistently sell out at over-Guide prices.

Comics with badly sagging sales from DC include Checkmate, Swamp Thing, Starman, New Gods, Captain Atom and Doctor Fate. Back issues sales on these are extremely low.

One pleasant surprise has been Sandman, which seems to sell more every issue. We sold a #1 for $6 recently and it looks like the price will continue to climb.

Over at Marvel, it should come as no surprise to anyone that the new Todd McFarlane Spiderman will probably be the biggest new comic this summer. The different covers should mean tremendous sales on this issue, but with customers already reserving five or ten copies each, just how much can the price go up? It seems there will be plenty around to meet the demand.

Our biggest new book this spring has to be Ghost Rider #1. It sold out almost overnight and the reprint went nearly as fast. We heard of one dealer selling #1 for $5 a week after it hit the stands. Ours are going for $3 at present.

Marvel's new titles in general have done very well. Guardians of the Galaxy and Saga of the Human Torch surprised us a little with very strong sales. Robocop and Black Knight weren't record breakers, but they both sold well. Sub-Mariner, for as long as John Byrne stays on, will enjoy strong sales.

X-Men continues to be the best of the regular Marvel titles, and the New Mutants' renovation has meant increased interest in that once sluggish title. X-Factor is still strong but Excalibur is sagging a bit.

Amazing Spiderman is still the flagship Spidey title, in both new and old issues. A near-mint #50 recently sold here for $75 and we have a waiting list for early issues of Amazing Spiderman. While sales on new issues of Spectacular and Web are respectable, they still run to about two-thirds of Amazing.

Other Marvels with strong sales include Silver Surfer (since Starlin took over the writing) and Fantastic Four with Walt Simonson. Gee, good art and good stories increase sales. Who would think it?

Failing titles here include Cloak & Dagger, Power Pack, Alpha Flight and Moon Knight.

Marvel and DC have choked out a lot of smaller publishers with the flood of new product they've put out, but they are some alternate publishers doing well, selling numbers that would be very strong even in the Big Two line-up.

For instance, Beauty and the Beast Vol. 1 is easily selling for $12, while Vol 2 is going for $6. Green Hornet from Now Comics is going for $6 and Predator #1 has sold here for $7

Tapping the Vein, Planet of the Apes and Aliens are other good examples. It should be noted that most of these are quality comics, with good art and story. While it is sadly true that quality alone won't sell comics (look at Wordsmith or Kings in Disguise - great books but low sales), quality books with name recognition and good treatments are usually a good bet to succeed in a tough market. They're also fairly good bets to go up in value as back issues.

On a subject that seems dear to the hearts of other price advisors, I have to question the need for a grading service. It seems to me the only person who would have to agree on the grading of a comic is the person buying it. Suppose this service called a book near mint and the buyer didn't agree. Would he still have to buy it? I know I wouldn't pay NM prices for books I considered fine, no matter how many "services" told me otherwise. So I fail to see the need for such a service.

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Well here we are after one of the biggest years this industry has ever seen. Now the question is what next? Last year Batman set records most had never seen before Thisyear the movie industry has given us another boost, one that comes as no surprise. Turtlemania. Already our stores are reporting double guide sales on all TMNTS On new sales we have had to triple our orders just to keep up with demand. Besides toys, posters, and trinkets Turtlemania is definitely here to stay. Will it exceed Batman? It looks like in the long run it might. It's not just the younger generation, but older investors are buying TMNT as fast as ever. How soon will we see TMNT 1 (m) sell for $1000? Of course dealers must be careful of overstocking the mass merchandise items like t-shirts, buttons, poster books, etc. But the comics are increasing at a rate hard to keep up with.

The greatest thing about the TMNT movie is it's bringing the tremendous swing of business to comic stores that weren't buying comics 1 year ago. Every day we hear "TMNT was really in comics first?"

NEW ISSUES: Leading the way is by far TMNT and ANY related material. Right at the top of the list is definitely Spiderman, Punisher, Ghost Rider (already #1 is going for $5 - $7), Namor, Capt. America, Iron Man, Silver Surfer, Robocop, Hulk, Daredevil, Guardians of Galaxy, West Coast Avengers, Wolverine, Web, Peter Parker, and Fantastic Four. On these titles we are continually seeing a good growth pattern month to month. X-Men and other related titles still sell but most customers are complaining that the story lines are stagnating badly. We have seen a definite improvement on newer mutants sales. Hopefully this will rub off on X-Men Also Marvel's success with Robocop, Ghost Rider and Guardians.
Our customers seem to be buying Marvel #1's more than in the past.

DC is still strong as ever. Legends of Dark Knight (#1 - m - $8.00), Batman, Detective, Hawkworld, JLE, JLA, and Green Lantern. Superman, Adventures of Superman and Action are selling well, but mostly because of Batman tie ins.

Independents are being led with TMNT, Vampire Leetat (#1 1st printing $10), Flaming Carrot, all new Disney titles, Dick Tracy, Green Hornet, Aliens and the new Classics Illustrated. The classics have always sold well to older collectors. Now we're seeing younger collectors are buying back issues as well. Tick's are almost impossible to find in any

quantity or condition.

Japanese titles are selling only to the die hard collectors. Slow, and definitely dropping off. A lot of independents that sold well in the past are dying because of slow shipping schedules. Our customers are growing tired of waiting for Aliens vs Predator but instead are saving their money for the new McFarlane Spiderman series and other new books. Hopefully the independents will heed this piece of advice Continue to slow ship and you may have no one to ship to.

BACK ISSUES: Certainly this has been the biggest year our company has ever seen in back issue sales.

Silver Age early 60's Marvel comics lead the way for us Spiderman, Fantastic Four, ITA, TOS, Journey into Mystery, Capt. America, Hulk, and Sgt. Furys are the best sellers. We have recently sold Spidermans under #30, 42, 50, 100, 121, 122, 129 in high grade for as much as 2x guide. As I write this - we sold two Capt. America #1's VF/NM for $1,750 each. If the early Marvels are high grade they may sell for as much as 2x guide or more I seriously wonder how soon we'll hear $10,000 for AM Fant 1?

DC's Silver Age should not be taken lightly. Batman is still as hot as ever, especially high grade. The demand is high for Rip Hunter 1-10, Metalmen (most under-rated DC back issue), Flash 105-140, Green Lantern 1-59, 61, 59 (3x guide for m), Doom Patrol, My Greatest Adventure, Showcase (especially 4, 6, 9, 10, 13 - 17, 20, 22, 24 guide NM/M), 22, 23, 34, (2x guide NM/M). One of the best for our stores has got to be 10 cent DC war comics in all grades. Leading the way is Our Army at War, All American Men of War, GI Combat, Our Fighting Forces and Star Spangled War Stories (2x guide for high grade dinosaur issues).

We feel that DC war comics especially in high grade are worth watching out for. We rarely have high grade war comics in our stores for more than a day

Golden Age. The title says it all. If the book is high grade and a popular title it is worth gold. The demand for Golden Age is increasing daily. Batman, Detective (esp. Joker and World War II covers) Capt. America (high grade brings 1.5 to 2.5 x guide), All-Star, All American, Green Lantern Dash, Superman (esp. 1, 24 in high grade), Capt. Marvel (way underpriced in guide), Whiz (also underpriced), and Human Torch. Recently we have sold Batman 1, 2, 3, for 1.25 to 1.5 x guide, Detective 33 FN $3500, World's Fair 1040 NM $1200, Superman 24 VF+ $650, Green Lantern #1 -G $675, All Select VG+ $275 and Four-color #5 - VF $1600.

It seems the trend is going fast toward high grade, white pages, no restoration, and cover quality.

Well that about all for me. Where will all this end? So far the industry is growing faster than ever Here's to success and growth.

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First I would like to thank Scott Neeley of First Choice comics in Dunwoody for his assistance with the new books report.

MARVEL: As most would have already guessed, Spiderman is the big winner in the new book department. McFarlane's Spiderman is scheduled to back issue, prices for the most popular issues are as follows: #296 - $28, #300 - $20, #312 - $7 and #316 - $10. As a whole Punisher and Punisher War Journal are doing very well, prices on #1 for both series are right at $10, but the most asked-for issues are Punisher #'s 9 & 10. We get $10 for #9, and $15 for #10. Other Punisher appearances have been red hot as well. The Spidey issues sell right at around guide, but Daredevil #257 has been selling steadily at $8, and Captain American #241 is on the at $40. Although Wolverine is still a big draw, his presence has not been enough to save the X-Men. This book is sinking fast, both as a new and a back issue. One plus in the mutant category however, has been Rob Liefeld and Fabian Nicieza's New Mutants. Since the movie, book the sales have been steadily rising. Ghost Rider sold out completely as a new issue and #1 is already bringing $4. Other books currently on the upswing are: Doctor Strange (unbelievable), Silver Surfer, and the Conan as a boy story-line.

DC COMICS: Green Lantern is the big story for DC. Emerald Dawn has turned into a huge success, with prices on the first issue already at $10. The first issue of the GL unlimited series has sold very well, as has the Hawkworld series. Both Justice League titles continue to do very well, but the real success story from DC has come from Grant Morris' Batman. This has taken off like a rocket. We get $15 for issue #1 and can't keep them in stock. The first 5 issues are all hard to find and look to do well in the future, if the interest is kept up after the talented Grant Morris leaves.

Batman was not mentioned first this time because, well, because he is old hat now. The new issues still sell very well, but back issues have started slitting and sitting. Most collectors feel that current prices on Batties are way too high (they may be right), and are choosing to look elsewhere to spend their dollars. DC's STR books are doing well, with a small but incredibly loyal crowd on the sword and sorcery books. Other books also trucking along include Dr. Fate, Star Trek (both titles), Superman, Starman, and the Atlantis Chronicles.

INDEPENDENT: Turtles are the word here. New issue sales are up (yes, even on the Archie title), as are back issue sales. Most in demand are issues #19 - 21, the Return to New York story-line, and any issue with all four turtles or Casey Jones on the cover. The Raphael one-shot with Casey's first appearance is a good sell at $20, while both Archie #1's move quickly at $5.

Alien vs Predator, after a wait of nearly forever, came and then went out that same day. Now we will just wait and see how long it takes to get the mini-series out. A new issue of Flaming Carrot finally came out late, and sold well. If this title came out regularly, new and back issue sales would be incredible. Also worth mention is the Elementals, and Married with Children, the only other two independents with near decent sales.

SILVER AGE:

MARVEL: It probably doesn't need repeating, but Amazing Spiderman is the Silver Age sales leader. Early high grade issues of Spiderman just can not be kept in stock for any length of time ! Not only that, we have Spidey collectors, but the older collectors are buying duplicate and even triplicate copies for their collection. Issue #14 in any grade is the most asked for, followed by any other Goblin appearance (#'s 17, 23, 26, 27, 38 & 40). The first two Kingpin issues (50 & 51) have incredible demand also, and sell for double current guide. Later issues are also hot, most notably #'s 94, 96 - 98, 100 ($45 for an NM), 103, 121 - 124, 129, 130, 135, and 136 - 137 (first Harry Osbourne as the Goblin'). You can not go wrong investing in early issues of Spiderman

Captain American #100 has been a red hot issue for some time now. Although we have had no high grade copies for a few months now, we have had several in the VG to F+ range, and they have all sold quickly for between $45 and $60. The other early issues have all been hot at over guide also. Our NM copy of #109 sold for $45 and a NM #117 brought $25. All issues up through #170 and #200 sell well.

Daredevil seems to be the most traded than other early Marvels. Although high grade copies of #'s 1 - 5 and 7 move well, along with any copy of #'s 16, 17 and 100, the remainder of the run is a small slump right now. Doctor Strange early issues are moving quite well, with even a NM copy of #169 going for $40. The remainder of the run in NM is bringing 1.5x current guide with #179 (Spiderman reissue) being the most asked for.

Fantastic Four is also a title that is not keeping up with the demand for. All issues of #'s 1 - 25 move quite well, with #'s 1, 4, 5, 6, 12 and 25 being the most asked for. We feel that #5 is equally as valuable as #4 in all grades, and sales are showing that this is the case. The Silver Surfer showing high demand, but the real surprise has been issue #50. It seems that collectors are bypassing issue #49 and are now hunting down #50 with a vengeance. The beautiful cover and the fact that it is the first real Surfer story have made this book nearly as popular as Spiderman #50, and I predict that it will not be much longer before they are selling for the same price. Issue #55 has also shown a lot of demand and is worth more than #'s 56 - 60. The other issues which are showing strong collector interest are #'s 52, 53, 72, 100, and 121 - 123.

Incredible Hulk is another title which has strong collector/investor demand on the keys, but is otherwise quiet. There is very strong demand for any copy of #'s 1 - 6 in Fine or better shape. The demand for #102 is there, but not like on copies of Cap #100 or Iron Man #1. Issue #122 with a Thing/Hulk battle is a good seller for as al $12 + NM, and #'s 140 - 142 goes without saying that #181 moves well in all grades.

Iron Man is the title that when combined with Tales Of Suspense produces the #1 or 2 seller behind Spiderman. Issue #1 is easily a $300 book now in NM. I don't know when this will end. I thought it would before now, but there seems to be no end in sight, although I can't see this book being worth half as much or more than Spiderman #50, which I don't foresee reach that. Issues #2 - 15 in all grades move well as does #43 (tough to find in nice shape), #47 and #100. As the price on #1 climbs higher and higher look for the mid run issues (#'s 20 - 50) to see continued high demand.

Journey Into Mystery/Thor is another title that people are finally coming to the realization that the early issues are hot in high grade. remember #'s 83 - 89 all came out before Spiderman #1, and are tough in any shape. All are a bargain at or slightly over guide. Issues #112 is particularly high demand in guide in all grades, while #'s 114 (1st Absorbing Man), 126, 158 and 193 all sell at about 1.5x guide in nice shape.

Silver Surfer #'s 1 - 7 are impossible to find in NM; even though these early issues are some of the best that Marvel ever produced, because of the higher price they were not bought in the quantity that other Marvels at the time were. This along with the limited print run was almost never perfectly centered has created some highly desirable books Issue #4 is most asked for and we have several offers of double guide for a NM copy. Issue #1 sells for $250 in NM when we can get them, and we have 5 - 7 bring $30 in nice shape. In the later issues, #11, 14 and 15 are the most asked for with #14 bringing $25 in NM.

Strange Tales continues to be popular as the issues are still so inexpensive compared to other early Marvels. We recently found a high grade run of issues #116 - 140. The #116 sold immediately for $75 as did the #135. Issues #125 (Sub-Mariner battle) and #126 (1st Dormammu) also sold for $35 each. Issue #110 of this series remains severely undervalued and is impossible to find in NM/M. I have been looking for one for myself for several years now and would gladly pay 2x guide for a copy.

Tales of Suspense continues to be a best Spiderman as the best back issue seller, and probably would if we could find the issues to sell

Issue #39 remains severely undervalued in all grades and sells well whenever we can find a copy. The same is true for the other early issues up through #56. It should also be noted that #55 has a secrets of Iron Man story in it and brings more than #54 or #56. But similar #56 is when the really, really undervalued books begin. The first Hawkeye is in #57 and is a 2x guide book, then the classic Iron Man vs. Cap story in #58 is a certain 2x guide book, THEN in #59 the Cap series starts. This is a certain 3-4x or more guide book in nice shape. The only copy we've had in a while was a VG/F and it went for $80. We were also witness to a sale of one in VF for $120, and this was when it was still $1 before the big guide came out!! Issue #60 is a combination of Cap #2/Hawkeye #2/Iron Man #22 and is also a 2x guide book. Cap's origin in issue #63 has also got to rank as one of the most classic origins ever told. Cap's origin and Silver-age hero's origin book (talking about the first time it is told now, not re-tellings) is valued at less than $100 - not even Dr. Strange; and yet there is Cap at only $40, a bargain if ever I saw one!

Tales To Astonish is a so showing strong demand. Although not nearly as strong as Tales Of Suspense, the keys are still doing very well. Issue #27 remains hard to find. Issue #44 still shows incredible demand at 1.5x guide with no copies above a F/VF showing up. Issues #59 and 60 still show some demand at around guide, but many collectors are now searching for #70 with the start of the Sub-mariner series. Look for this issue to reach the same price as #60 before too long. In later issues, #93 with Early Surfer appearance and beautiful cover is bringing $25 for us in NM/ X-Mint and mentioned only because of some small demand for it's 1 - 5, 12 and 35 (the Spiderman issue).

DC COMICS: Early issues of Action have been much requested, especially #252, but we have not come across one for sale in a while. Issue #263 has been a good mover also, with a F/VF copy going for $20. Adventure is another title that we would love to have a lot of early issues of (but not Legion issues). Issue #254 has been the issue for Green Arrow collectors, as it retells GA's origin and has beautiful Kirby artwork. Issue #260 is seeing some action, too, as it, not Showcase #30, retells Aquaman's origin for the first time in the Silver Age. Have only a NM/M copy of #260 is worth $125 - $150, with a NM copy of #256 being worth about twice that. Issue #271 is also seeing some action as its the first ever telling of Luthers origin. Watch for this book to really pick up in the coming months.

Copies of the Atom in high grade simply do not exist in enough quantity to go around. At every show we go to we get requests for requests for this book. We had a beautiful NM copy of #29 and had two people fighting over who was going to be able to give us $50 for it. Look for this book, as well as other Golden Age guest shots to take off soon.

Brave and The Bold continues to be highly requested, especially copies of #28 - 30, 34, 43, 50 and 57. The first Hawkman in #34 is still very undervalued compared to other DC first appearances, and looks to be an excellent investment book. Mention of Doctor Fate's appearance in #57 has been popular with the younger crowd, and nice copies are eagerly snapped up at or a little over guide.

Batman and Detective have also undergone a drastic cut in demand, although key issues still move well. The titles as a whole have slowed considerably since last year's break-neck speed. Batman #155 has shown moving, but it is rather rare in NM/M and Detective #327, Silver Age, has demand is #234 with the first Silver-Age Two-Face. It should be pointed out that since #200 went to $100 in the guide, we have received zero requests for the Detective the still outsells it's issues # s 205, 267, 298, 300, 359, 387 and 400. These all sell well at right around guide.

If we could find enough issues, Flash would be our #1 best selling DC title, as it is in all the writings with incredible demand. The Super-man/Flash race also has been requested a lot lately.

Green Lantern, like Flash, has a very strong following. Their first team-up in issue #12 just can't be found. The Golden Age Green Lantern's first two cross-overs in #40 and #45 are in strong demand, with more people asking for #35, because of its relative inexpensiveness as compared to #40. Guy Gardner's first appearance in issue #61 is a book with a VF copy selling for $95. Issue #87 features not only Guy Gardner's second appearance, but John Stewart's first, and is a strong seller at double guide. The other Gardner issues also move well, especially #116 at $3 where he first gains the GL powers, and #195 at $10 where he gets them to keep.

House Of Mystery is being mentioned only for issue #143, the start of the Jonn Jonnz story. The only copy we have had in a while was in Fine, and went for $20. House Of Secrets is also being mentioned only for one reason - Swamp Thing. My advice is to get them while you can.

Our Army At War is on the move. We can not find enough early issues of this title to go around. I think if we had 100 copies of #81, I could sell them all in one week. This book sells for over guide in any shape. We have had sold VF copies of issue #'s 128 and 151; both sold for $25. This is a title to watch in the upcoming months. Rip Hunter and Sea Devils sell well in high grade (doesn't everything?). We get several calls asking for any copy of #1's or NM copies of any issues. Copies below VF just do not sell for us on the se titles.

Showcase remains the #1 seller in the DC line. If we could find all the copies of #'s 27 - 29, and 34 we are asked for, it would be downright scary. Since so few copies of the early issues are available, people are turning to the later issues and looking for undervalued books. The most asked for late issue (post #34) would have to be #60. This is the first Silver-Age appearance of the Spectre and is greatly underrated. We received a sold a VF copy for $40, and another copy at double guide. This book looks to be red-hot in the coming months. Also on the high demand list is #45 at $30, #62 at $16, #73 at $16, #75 and #77 at $12 each.

Last but far from least is Strange Adventures. Emphasis in this title has shifted from the Deadman and Atomic Knights issues (although #117 is still asked for) to the Animal-Man issues. We are currently offered 10x guide for copies of #180 in any condition. The last copy we had was a solid Fine and it sold to another dealer for $75. Copies of other Animal-Man appearances are also in high demand. At this time we get $75 for #184, $40 for #190 (his first appearance), and $30 each for #195 and #201. With Animal-Man's new popularity and the true scarcity of these books, these prices could look very cheap this time next year. If you can find them now do not hesitate to get them. You might not see them again for a long time.

GOLDEN AGE: We are trying to concentrate on low-grade, expensive copies of Golden Age (i.e., those in the $150 or less range), and inexpensive keys in any shape. These all seem to move great when we find them. There is still an incredible demand for books that seem very inexpensive in the guide, but are very pricey here DC, or other Canadian. Collectors are only now realizing that on truly rare comics such as New Fun #1, Funny Picture Stories #1, or Comics Magazine #1 that only a handful exist in any condition and that a Fine or Very Fine copy might possible be one of the nicest in existence, and worth a considerable amount over NM guide list. My advice to collectors is that as prices on Silver-Age continue to go sky high, to look for relatively inexpensive DC's, Centaurs, Timely, and, yes, even Fawcetts. Titles such as Arrow, All-Winners, Comic Cavalcade, Master Comics, Silver Streak, Crack and Wonderworld all look inexpensive compared to many Silver-Age comics, and should be good investments in the coming years

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Well, spring is here and the sun is warm. But comics are HOT! So let me scrape off my suntan lotion and let's get down to business. The comics field as a whole has grown astronomically. Movies that are either based on comics, or that have comics based on them are selling extremely well Turtles stuff just flies out of boxes. Posters! Who can keep them around?! But hey; let's just dive right into the heart of the matter.

DC: For Silver Age sales Batman is still the standard bearer of the line. They are pretty much gone when we get them Running a close second are such titles as Doom Patrol, Rip Hunter, Mystery in Space, and Sea Devils. Only certain issues of titles like Brave And The Bold or Showcase seem to be hot. These are, of course, first appearance issues or origin issues. Trailing behind are Superman, Action, Adventure and World's Finest; but they will pick up the pace when people realize what a bargain they are compared to other titles of the same era. For the recent years, Batman is still the hottest D.C. title but as Batmania dies down other titles are catching up. The Joker Batman is Hot! It is hard to get early issues of this title in stock! Issue #1 easily fetches $7 and #2 - 5 get around $4 each. Have a stash of the variant #8 and I've been offered $12 for one! Maybe I'll start selling them individually. The new Hawkworld and Green Lantern titles are selling well. For the moment Emerald Dawn has slowed but should pick up again after school is out Even so, E.D. #1 still moves quickly at around $6 each. There is resistance at around $8. All 70's D.C.'s are hot! Especially since you can still find some of these gems in stores' quarter boxes. Some recent sales include Hawkman #2 - 5 (all VF) $200 set; Adventure #259 F $52, #282 F $50, #300 VG $72, #302 NM $40, Atom #1 F+ $125, #5 VF $40, Aquaman #1 G $20, Batman #171 VG $65, #179 F $20, #200 NM $90, Creeper #1 - 6 NM $85 set, Brave And The Bold #35 and 36 both about F $75 set, Detective #395 and 396 both F/VF $155, #298 NM $45, Doom Patrol #100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 106, 107, 108, 110 all NM $200 set, Flash #110 VG $50, #137 G+ $11, House Of Secrets #92 NM $45, Rip Hunter #5 and 7 both F/VF $60 each, Emerald Dawn #1 M $12, Sandman #1 - 8 and to wrap it all up a complete run of Plop in VF or better brought $80! Is this the start of another S Aragones trend? Will Groo heat up again? Will anyone ever buy another set of the Death Of Robin? I guess we'll soon see. But now on to...

MARVEL: Spiderman remains the standard bearer of this title. Popularity stayed even after Peter Parlaine left the book. Back issue sales? You can't have back issue sales with no back issues in stock! We can't keep McFarlane Spideys in stock. They're gone within 24 hours of our getting them, and the wait list only seems to get longer every day. One tip, though: I've heard of other stores ordering 1,500 or more copies each of the new Spiderman book So while it may be a hot seller don't expect it to shoot up overnight Remember even #298 is three years old. Other HOT marvel titles you ask? Captain America for one! Cap. is 50 this year and as a big C.A. fan I'm excited. While his new books are not huge sellers, the back issue's sales more than make up for it; and once people have the new older back issues they'll have to get the new and get issues they don't get on the stands. This gives these new issues good potential. Red Skull

covers and stories will be especially hot this summer when the Cap. movie comes to a theater near you! The new Namor and Human Torch mini-series are both very strong sellers These can also be tied into the Silver Age boom at this time. As I've said for a long time, mutants are slowing and that trend is still continuing. People love Wolverine, especially when he's with the Punisher, but it seems that they couldn't give two squats about the other X-Men. G.I. Joe is bird-cage liner. The Punisher is hot! But will he still be when the movie comes out? If it comes out? From what I hear the movie has been shelved until late this summer, at least. Something about him looking too much like a comic book character! Funny since the movie is based on a comic book! Still, I think that Jim Lee does a good job, and so does everyone who buys it. Wow! Journey into mystery, Avengers West Coast sells well as does Fantastic Four. No real ups or downs. Just steady sales. As for Silver Age, no real surprises here. Anything and just about everything sells. Spidey is the HOTTEST! Iron Man or Sub-Mariner run a very close second. Captain America is in third right now but I suspect will be in second by summer; this includes ALL Cap. titles, such as Tales Of Suspense, Cap. A, and even Avengers (I mean after issue #12). Tales To Astonish, the Hulk, and Fantastic Four come in at fourth, with Avengers, X-Men and Daredevil bringing up the rear in big back issue sales. Pre-Marvels and Atlas titles have always been collected and have always been strong sellers. The Silver Age boom has only helped to make it all the harder to acquire these early issues. Some recent sales include: Amazing Spiderman #2 F+ $60, #3 VG $30, #6 F+ $52, Amazing Adult Fantasy #8 VG $25, #9 G $12, #10 NM $90, Spiderman #2 VG $210, #5 VF $225, #13 F $80, #14 G $40, #14 VG $60, Ann. #2 NM $45, Avengers #2 VG $95, #4 Q $45, #4 VG $70, #4 F+ $75, Captain American #100 VF $120, #109 NM $25, Daredevil #1 G $100, Fantastic Four #2 VG $200, #6 G $60, #12 F+ $130, #13 VG $55, #112 NM $15, Iron Man #3 VG $75, Kid Colt #100 and Sub-Mariner #1 NM $90, Hulk #2 G $60, #5 F- $85, #102 NM $75, Sgt. Fury #1 G $40, Silver Surfer #4 NM $80, Tales Of Suspense #39 VG $265, #58 F $30, #99 NM $15, Tales To Astonish #49 NM $80, #57 VG $10, #59 F $25 and X-Men #1 VG $200, #6 F+ $160, #5 VG $40, #10 NM $110. To wrap it up, most new X-Men sell for below guide values. One last thing, is it just me or does anyone else notice Treasury editions picking up in popularity again?

INDEPENDENTS: This field is still slow, due in part to the B&W implosion of three years ago. There seems to be a few strong sellers but then...nothing. The Turtles sell for (copies) VF plus. Anything else; I don't have an issue below #12 in stock right now. Love And Rockets sells strong when a new issue comes out, but they come out too infrequently to establish a good, strong back issue market. People seem content to just buy books. The popularity of Flaming Carrot seems to have picked up as I'm running out of back issues rapidly. Dark Horse is hot. Both Predator and the older Aliens are strong sellers. By the time you read this Predator Vs. Aliens will be out and should be selling extremely well. Most other independents seem to be slow. Here are some sales: T.M.N.T. #2 NM $65, #4 NM $18, #5 NM $15, Love And Rockets (1 copy) VF plus, Vanity Plus, else; I don't have an issue below #12 in stock right now. Love And Rockets sells strong when a new issue comes out, but they come out too infrequently to establish a good, strong back issue market. People seem content to just buy books. The popularity of Flaming Carrot seems to have picked up as I'm running out of back issues rapidly. Dark Horse is hot. Both Predator and the older Aliens are strong sellers. By the time you read this Predator Vs. Aliens will be out and should be selling extremely well. Most other independents seem to be slow. Here are some sales: T.M.N.T. #2 NM $65, #4 NM $18, #5 NM $15, Love And Rockets (1 copy) VF plus, Vanity Plus, #1 NM $25, #5 NM $18, #8 NM $18, #13 NM $8, Flaming Carrot #2 NM $40, #5 NM $20, #12 NM $6, Predator #1 NM $12, #2 NM $6, Dark Horse Presents #36 NM $6. Do I sound like the type who didn't, or should I say couldn't, lower his prices on most B&W comics when the guide did? The B&W comics are really hot, in California anyway.

UNDERGROUNDS: are hot! After the underground exhibition at the cartoon art museum it seems that a lot of people rediscovered their 60's roots. Early print mint stuff just seems to fly out of the boxes. Zap!, XYZ, Mother Oats, and American Flyer Funnies are the most popular at the moment. Even Bijou Funnies is getting hot. Some sales: Zap #1 priced Cherry Poptart is very popular. Back issues sell well and, thanks to the new book, her first appearance in the Funny Book is now hard to get and in demand. Her fan club is now happening and growing fast. Her movie has now been picked up by a major film company and should be out this fall, with some animated cartoons in tow. Some recent sales include: Zap #0 (Donahey) FN $110, #1 NM/MT $140, #2 NM $125, the Funny Book #1 NM $20, Cherry #1 (1st print) NM $12, Uneeda #1 F $14, Mother Oats #1 NM $28, Captain Guts #1 NM $18, #2 NM $15, #3 NM $15, various issues of Cavalier at A/E. Cavalier: You know the drill. Underground prices have a new updated underground price guide — there hasn't been one in almost 10 years. All those who agree, raise your hand.

GREAT AGE: We can't get enough! While Silver Age is currently the hottest seller G.A. still sells faster than we can get it. Of course, Batman is the big seller, with Joker covers and stories leading the way. More Fun, Adventure, All-Star, and Flash Comics are all hot sellers. We haven't had an issue of Flash to sell in over 5 months! Centaurs are especially hot. Amazing Mystery Funnies leads the pack for us in sales. All pre-hero G.A. and Centaurs are in constant demand. We couldn't have more than five issues for both. Total! In stock. In Timely's Captain America leads the way, along with his guest appearances in USA, Young Men, and All Winners. Next up is Sub-Mariner and the Human Torch. Their own titles are very hot but for some reason Marvel Mystery seems slow. Only the first twenty issues are in demand here. 50's Subby, Cap., and the Torch are all high demand items right now. Some recent sales include: Captain America #17 VF $600, Men's Adventures #27 F $75, More Fun $42 F+ $225, #44 NM (rest) $320, Police #1 VF $1,500, Smash #40 F+ $65, Atomic Comics #1 F+ $120, All Star Comics #22 F- $275 #41 VF $200, Sub-Mariner #1 $250, Human Torch #35 VG $75 #38 F+ $85, Batman #23 G $150. That's all the exciting one's for now. Golden Age is hard to get here in Northern California, and there seems to be a customer for just about everything!

COLLECTIBLES: Lots of people's interest has turned to comic related stuff — toys, games, and related memorabilia. Batman-related toys led the way, but the demand far outstripped the supply. James Bond toys were also in big demand. Does anyone have any Aurora model kits? We don't and can't keep them in stock when we do get them! Star Trek is a popular as ever! People want everything from models to costumes to Next Generation Cards to phaser bows. Recent sales include: Star Trek #3 figure set $55, James Bond Car (Corgi) $35, Star Trek Exploration Set $85, Star Trek Galileo $160, Marvel Super-Heroes Card Game $16

What else is hot?! Well, Betty Page is hot! Her 50's pin-up mags sell faster than anyone can seem to get them. Her appearances in Rocketeer and her new "Betty Pages" have only helped to make her the hottest beauty in ages. Young and old have rediscovered her and this can only force up the price of 1950's pin-up mags.

Other than what's above, there's not much else to tell right now. Silver Age will dominate into winter, then I think more obscure Golden Age will start to take off. Spiderman, like Batman did, will start to level off after summer, but will go strong into '91. The Punisher might be a worry spot if the movie ever comes out, and Captain America should have a strong summer and winter. Well, time to get back to the fan. Have a good summer, and we'll see ya in four more months!

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A few days ago I was cleaning out the back of my store (Hercules' 13th labor, let me tell you) and I came across a stack of old Overstreet Price Guides, going all the way back to 1976. I spent a couple of hours going through them. Fascinating!! - Some of the Silver Age books that are so hot now actually went DOWN in price in the early 80s. Amazing Heroes #100 went from $12 to $9. I remember I had a tough time selling even NM copies of this book.

Amazing Spiderman #129, red hot right now, was $2.00 for years and years, then it shot up like a rocket starting in 1987. X-Men #94 was the most expensive and sought-after post-silver-age book of the mid-eighties, but it only climbed about $15 a year. Now it's a still expensive and still sought after, but there are many books ahead of it now in terms of price and demand.

The market is so much more volatile now than it was then! None of this stately $10 a year increase for "hot" books! Hot Books double in value even between updates!

The long period between this update and the last can be divided into two parts. Up until the middle of January nearly everything was pretty much as I described it in the last update. Then things began to shift and four trends became apparent: the decline of the X-Men and most of the mutant books, the fall of Batman, and the powerful resurgence of Spiderman. But let's talk numbers, snail we?

Here is a list of back issue sales ranked on number of issues sold. All percentages are given in terms of X-Men back issue sales.

1/Amazing Spiderman 150%/2. X-Men 100%/3. Iron Man 61%/4. Batman 52%/5. Daredevil 48%/6. Avengers 44%/7 Spectacular Spiderman 40%/8. Wolverine 39%/9. Fantastic Four 36%/10. Web Of Spiderman 34%/11 Avengers West Coast 30%/12. Captain America 27%/13. Hulk 27%/14 Green Arrow 26%/15 Punisher 26%/16. Punisher War Journal 25%/17 Power Pack 22%/18. Action 21%/19. TMNT 21%/20. Brave & Bold 20%/21 Detective Comics 19%/22 Flash 18%/23. Conan 17%/24. Doctor Strange 17%/25. X-Factor 16%.

To save everyone the trouble of flipping to the rankings in the last update, the big gainers are: Amazing Spiderman, Iron Man, Daredevil, Spectacular Spiderman, Wolverine, Web Of Spiderman, Green Arrow, Hulk, Punisher War Journal, and TMNT. Power Pack can be dismissed as a fluke. Big losers are: X-Men, Fantastic Four, Punisher, Conan, Excalibur, Thor, X-Factor, New Mutants, Swamp Thing and Moon Knight.

And this effect would be even more widely pronounced if I had only used the figures from the last three months, instead of the last six. The next update report will probably reflect this.

NEW AND RECENT COMICS: The name on everyone's lips is Todd McFarlane. His new Spiderman #1 is very eagerly anticipated and I expect it to be my best selling book EVER, easily surpassing Legends Of The Dark Knight #1. The only question is: how many copies will we have to order, but can't we write? I guess we'll find out. Also, there is a lot of interest in other up-and-coming artists: Jim Lee, Rob Liefeld, and Dale Keown. All of their books are showing increased activity.

Speaking of number ones, this year's crop of first issues is doing MUCH better than last year's. For instance, of the six titles that Marvel introduced last year, it looks like only one is able to go the distance: What If!

This year, on the other hand, we have a mega-smash: Spiderman, and a certified surprise hit: Ghost Rider. Guardians Of The Galaxy and Namor are not doing badly, either. Human Torch and Black Knight are doing surprisingly well, also.

Many of the mutant books are showing definite signs of decline. I am constantly getting complaints about how needlessly complex the plotlines of Excalibur, X-Men, X-Factor and New Mutants are. I'm not saying that complexity is a bad thing, but the plotting on these books is hard to understand because it's just plain SLOPPY. Still, X-Men will probably remain #1 or close to it because Jim Lee is going to be drawing it. Rob Liefeld is a much-needed asset on New Mutants.

DC is not doing as well, but they are certainly not doing poorly. Green Lantern: Emerald Dawn was a big hit (#1 is now $10) and the new series is selling very strongly. Hawkworld #1 went over very well. The Justice League books are showing an upturn in sales now that the story-lines are becoming more serious. The jokes were cute for a year or so, but they got old fast and I was getting a lot of complaints. The Batman books are slipping in sales, but are still all in the top ten. I don't really expect to see a big decline in sales since many readers of the movie brought in are staying. However, it goes without saying that sales are only about 60% of what they were last summer.

Arkham Asylum sold very, very well. In spite of the outrageous cover price it was my best selling graphic novel ever, and it kept Batman sales perky until a few weeks after Christmas. I sold out completely. But that was then, this is now. I recently picked up a couple more copies, and they are just sitting. Digital Justice was a much more attractive package, but it only sold about 1/3 what Arkham Asylum did. Be warned! The Bat-hype is wearing thin.

Many of DC's titles aimed at older audiences are doing very well. Leading the pack are Sandman and Green Arrow. Both Star Trek titles sell well. However, Legion Of Super-heroes completely baffles even hardcore Legion fans.

Well, it seems that the Independents have discovered the secret of success in the '90's: tie-ins to other media. Sad to say, it seems that all the smaller publishers have given up trying to establish their own concepts, and instead are renting other people's. Not so, you say? Look at this list: Aliens, Predator, Married With Children, Green Hornet, Tapping The Vein, The Hobbit, James Bond, Beauty & The Beast, Robotech...well, you get the idea. But I'm not complaining. Comics need to have more ties into mainstream culture.

I am really enjoying First's Classics Illustrated series. Contrary to what some people say, they DO make me want to go back and read the original books they are based on. Sadly, this series is only showing mediocre sales.

More disturbing are the "adult" comics. The word "adult" goes in quotes because, in spite of the sexual content of these comics, the motivating spirit is juvenile, nay infantile. Black Kiss was a blockbuster. Xxxenophile is downright charming. I enjoy Melody and Omaha, but Leather & Lace????? Sapphire???? The less said, the better. But these comics sell! Cherry Poptart is one of the best selling independents, and the best selling black & white (next to TMNT). Still, I wonder: when am I going to start getting hassled for carrying these books.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are doing very well. This is surprising, considering what a big hit the movie is; it should be doing much better. There are two reasons for this: 1) Everyone thinks the comics are a spinoff of the cartoon! 2) The Turtles main appeal is to people almost too young to read. At the showing of the movie I attended, I was the only person in the theater who was not a parent or a child!

I think this is about as big a success as the Alternatives can hope for nowadays.

The Disney books are selling better than the same books when they were under Gladstone. But Gladstone is doing well with its EC reprints.

BACK ISSUES: Now that I begin this section, it occurs to me: for a back issue price guide I certainly talk a lot about current issues! But, really, as a store owner they have to be my main concern. Back issues only account for about 30% of what I sell. Also, the sales of a back issue are very closely tied to how the current issues of a book are selling.

Compared to last quarter, and compared to this time last year I'm selling more back issues. However, I'm selling a LOT more new issues. As a percentage of my gross, back issues are in decline. In April 1989 it was 30.7%, in April 1990 it was 28.1%. And I'm working a lot harder to sell what I've got — Sales, discounts, etc. Still, the summer is a good time for everything, so I'm not worried.

Also, I'm noticing a trend that I don't much like. Taking the cue from some baseball card collectors I know, I call it the Stars/Commons Syndrome. Stars sell readily for higher prices, but commons are lower priced and just sit. Paying half guide or even a third of guide for common, middle-run comics is just foolish. You'll have many of them until you die unless you start remaindering them. I am having problems moving comics that are not part of three groups: 1) recent back issues (last year or so), 2) Silver Age (before 1973), 3) key issues (Wolverine, Punisher appearances, etc.). For instance, it is a snap to keep, say, Captain America #176 - 330 in stock (except #241, of course) or Fantastic Four #135 - 300. I'm starting to pray that the Silver Age also expands to include everything published before last Thursday.

MARVEL: Still the undisputed back-issue king. Head and shoulders above every other book is Amazing Spiderman. I cannot keep the first fifty issues and the last fifty issues in stock. Some prices: #238: $14, #293: $8, #298 $27, #299 $15, #300 $19, #328 $5. There is a lot of speculation on the McFarlane books. People stroll in and buy EVERYTHING in the box! Without even looking at the prices!

Also subject to much speculation is Ghost Rider #1. Even though we have not seen #3 yet, #1 is a very easy sell at $6. I feel a little strange selling it for that, but I'd feel like a dope selling it for less, considering how few I have.

McFarlane art books are hot. Oddball Punisher and Wolverine appearances are selling high. I saw $35 on a Captain America #241. Captain America Annual #8 may be a $15 book. I had a big stack of Hulk #340, and my last one just sold $15. My last Punisher War Journal #6 sold for that also. Punisher Mini #1 sold for $40, but not quickly. Punisher regular #1, Punisher War Journal #1 and Wolverine #1 are all $12. Only the first of these may be too high.

X-Men, Excalibur, and X-Factor are slowing way down. I recently bought a set of the last six years of X-Men and checked the back issue box only to discover I needed only a couple of them. The old X-Men issues are selling well. The Punisher series is slowing down except for the first twelve issues, but Punisher War Journal is picking up the slack. Anticipation of the Captain America movie is having very little influence on back issue sales. His key issues in Tales Of Suspense and the first twenty issues of his own run are very hot, but that is just because they are prime Silver Age books and have been underpriced for too long.

The new Submariner book has finally sparked interest in the old series, but only before issue #40. The rest of the run just sits, except for the Spiderman appearance in #69.

I cannot keep any Iron Man before issue #80.

Again, most of what is selling in the major Marvel titles are the 12 - 20 cent issues and the last two or three years. The only series that shows activity throughout the whole run is Amazing Spiderman.

DC COMICS: Any DC with a cover price under 20 cents sells in almost any condition. Some of the more expensive books take some time to move. Anything priced over $20 is difficult to move. But if it is $5 or under, get out of the way! This includes even war titles and funny animal books, although Sgt. Rock back issues have usually done well.

The difference between DC and Marvel is that the Recent DC issues simply do not sell. For instance, even though I group both Flash titles together in my counting, it is exclusively sales of the old titles that have put the book in the top 25.

There are exceptions. Animal Man is finally beginning to sell here. All of my Sandman back issues before #11 are gone. Advanced D & D, Forgotten Realms and Dragonlance sell well as back issues, but the new issue sales stink. The same is true of Firestorm and Doc Savage.

I cannot hold onto the first two issues of Emerald Dawn. I felt I overordered on #1, yet I sold my last one last month for $9.50. Look for the amazing success of the new series to boost sales of the back issues and old series in the next quarter.

I suppose I should say something about Batman now. Next update is going to reflect a big drop in back issue sales. Most of the difficult-to-find back issues from before Dark Knight have been bought and the recent issues are in plentiful supply and have stopped selling. At least twice a week somebody tries to sell me a set of Death In The Family. I either say I'm not interested, or I quote them a price that makes them run away screaming. A lot of people speculated on these books and are now trying to cash them in. Too late folks! Try and wait for the next movie, although I doubt that will help.

With the exception of the Bat-titles, DC"s from the 1972-1985 era are not selling at all. No surprise, most of them are rubbish! However, if you want to speculate on these, go ahead. They are in very short supply.

INDEPENDENTS: Poor back issue sales continue to plague the other publishers. The exception to this, as it is the exception to everything else, is Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. A couple of years back the Turtles cooled off and I got stuck with piles of recent issues. Still, sales were not what they should have been considering that for the past few weeks I have been seeing Turtles EVERYWHERE. This puzzles me. It also makes me have a curious craving for pizza.

Aliens and Predator are selling very well, but supplies are limited. I saw someone trying to sell Aliens II #1 for $15. I don't think he was having any luck.

The following titles are showing some activity: Judge Dredd, Dreadstar, Lone Wolf & Cub, Robotech, Ralph Snart Adventures, Green Hornet (I don't have any more!) and Grimjack.

It would be mean to point out that I have not sold a single back issue of Cerebus since the last report, so I won't.

ODDBALL: Lots of activity here, but only in the lower price ranges. A couple of years ago I made a mistake, so I thought, and bought a big collection of funny animal books. Now they are nearly all gone. Of course, the Disney's were the first to go. For a long time I scratched my head when other dealers reported how well Disney's sold. Finally I see the light. Here's some irony: now that Gladstone is no longer publishing Disney, the Gladstone Disney's are selling as back issues.

Westerns, war comics, TV comics all sell well. I picked up a lot of Classics Illustrated and Archie Comics recently. They don't seem to be selling, but perhaps more patience is required.

I picked up some of the older, more expensive Little Lulus a couple of years ago, and I have nearly all of them still. Little Lulus move, but only for less than $5 an issue.

A note of interest: I seem to be the only comic store in the area willing to carry oddball back issues.

GOLDEN AGE: There are seven comic stores in this area and I am the only one that carries any Golden Age. No wonder it doesn't sell! I'm sure that dealers who have an extensive mail order business, or who do

shows frequently sell a lot of Golden Age, but store owners should steer clear of these books, especially the expensive ones. Unless, of course, you really WANT to carry them.

Last Minute Price Notes: The following are underpriced: Ghost Rider #1 (1st series), Werewolf By Night #1, Marvel Premiere #50 (Alice Cooper), Marvel Comics Super Special #1, #5 (Kiss), Marvel Super Heroes #19 (1st Guardians of the Galaxy), all Kirby 4th World Books (Kamandi, Forever People, Mister Miracle, New Gods, Jimmy Olsen), all the old Superman vs. Flash races.

That's it from New York's Capital District. So, until they east Danny Davito as the Punisher, Make Mine Overstreet.

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It has been a busy six months since our last market report, and a lot has changed in the retail and investment areas of our hobby. The business of selling new and collectible comics has been as brisk as that of last summer when the vast and rapid upswing in the sales of new and back issues took place, and this trend doesn't seem to give any indication of letting up.

SILVER AGE COMICS. The trend in Silver Age collecting continues to lean toward Marvel comics that began soon after the Silver Age boom. Overall, prices are more stable than they were last year. Choice, high grade key issues are the most volatile and hard to put a price on. As we mentioned, Marvels are dominant, with most of the new crop of baby boomers buying now what they remember then. Most of the key issues are selling at list price in grades below fine, but there are a few notable exceptions.

The Amazing Spiderman #50 is going for $150.00 in nm/m, $60 in fine, $20 in good, while Iron Man #1 is fetching $325.00 in nmum, $200 in very fine, $125 in fine, $35 in good. We have standing offers of quite a bit more than guide for very fine or better condition copies of Tales Of Suspense #39, but we've been unable to locate one in that condition. We have found several in the good to very good condition, but these went for list price and no higher.

Of the later Marvels, we have noted the continuing increase in demand for such things as Tomb Of Dracula #1, Werewolf By Night #1, Defenders #1, and most of the other books that premiered during the early to mid 70's. Ghost Rider #1 is a $25 book for us in the nm/m category, and finding them is getting to be more and more difficult. We had noticed an increased demand for them some time before the new series was announced, and since the appearance of the new book, the demand has increased. We have a lot of customers waiting for a copy in fine. The Marvel Spotlight issues with Ghost Rider are also brisk sellers, with #5 going for $25.

Contrary to what others might say, we do quite well with early, high grade copies of Conan. While we do not get more than guide on these, we do get a lot of requests for all of the first twenty-four issues, with #1, #14, and #15 being the most sought.

For us, the buying of Silver Age books has been good, and we've been luckily enough to stay well stocked with them, but keeping the high end books in stock is proving to be more difficult than ever before. Most of these books at what we feel are reasonable prices; our customers are buying them as quickly as we can locate them.

DC's are starting to be a big addition to Marvels as noted in our previous market reports. That is not to say that overall sales of Silver Age DC's is poor. To the contrary, we have found that demand is up, it's just that there aren't as many collectors buying DC's as Marvels. Since we turn up DC's at lesser quantities, this situation conveniently balances. We're getting a lot of requests for early Flash's (#105 to #115), as well as for the Showcase appearances of Green Lantern. We recently sold a Showcase #24 in fine+ for $125. We've also sold Green Lantern #40 in nm condition for $250. High grade copies of key DC's always were, and more than ever, are prized items, and as such usually go for above guide for us.

GOLDEN AGE: Sales have been extremely strong in Golden Age comics. We had been predicting a surge in collector interest in Golden Age books as the prices of the more recent Silver Age began to approach those of the rare books of the 40's and 50's. You can now collect many Golden Age titles as cheaply (if not more cheaply) than a lot of Silver Age titles. Recently, we bought a very large Golden Age collection that was heavy with super-hero books from the early to mid 40's. Everything ranged, for the most part, from fair to fine, with some exceptions. The DC's and Timely's sold incredibly fast at guide; we had absolutely no res stance to selling these books at Overstreet prices. Sometimes, it's harder to find customers for these same books in the high end grades due to pricness (since investors prefer only the key issues), but the results of our experiences in recent months has meant a shift toward buying more Golden Age material.

We have noted a lot of sales of older books in our part of the country. While we have done well with them, so have a lot of our colleagues. A dealer sold a Batman #1 at our monthly Atlanta Comic Book Marketplace back in March. It was a fine+ copy and went for $6,500.

Fawcetts from the 1940's. All of these super-hero books sell very well for us, in all grades. Quite frankly, these books are excellent deals w th great investment potential since they are valued low compared to other Golden Age super-hero titles, at guide prices. We're always are happy to buy Fawcetts.

EC's: EC's are enjoy ng quite an upsurge; and not just the SF titles Horror and crime EC's are doing w ll, too. Mainly these are selling best in high grade, but we do well with all grades. In recent weeks, we've acquired roughly f ive EC's and have sold most of these. We've moved several file copy SF books at slightly more than nm guide. Part of the interest may have been generated by the recent announcement of the Gaines collections of back issues and the remaining collection. Another event to look forward to w ll be John H tchcock's EC Reunion Convention in Greensboro, NC in October; many of the surviving E Cartists w ll attend and we expect sales of EC's to be very good.

QUALITY COMICS: Quality Comics are something we have been turning up a lot of, ately. Generally, we move them, but much more slowly than we do other Golden Age put shers. Blackhawk does well, but Military and Modern Com cs do not benefit from this demand for the Blackhawk title. Any books with Doll Man also sell.

DELL: Walt Kelly books are moving well. Pogo Possum and Animal Comics are going well in all grades. All Barks issues of Four Color and WDC&S are slow for us, but high grade Four Color ducks are asked for frequently. TV books such as Sea Hunt, I Love Lucy, are fast movers. All Bullwinkle & Rocky titles sell instantly. Early Fl ntstones and Three Stooges also move qu ckly.

CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED: The new Classics are selling moderately well for us; our younger customers understandably like them just fine due to familiar writer/art st teams, but the older crowd seems to prefer the initial series. Classics originals sell extremely well and due to their prices, so do all reprints. There are many new collectors beginning to collect Classics and they usually intend on getting a full set. About 25% of Classics Illustrated comics also want Juniors, but they are a bit more slower, in general. Special Issues and The World Around Us are bookstiers and we now have a number of them sitting forlornly in our warehouse.

ACG: We have noted an incredible demand for Herb e. at guide prices and in any grade. Sci-fi titles in VF or better go for about twice guide. These books are very uniformly drawn and the super-hero titles ACG came out with in the sixties. We feel there is a lot of room here for investment, and the smart collectors are searching these books out and buying them while they are so cheap.

FICTION HOUSE: All Fiction House titles are showing less movement, as demand is slowing on these books. Panels are very expensive and many have stopped collecting them. Jumbo and Jungle sell well in low grade, as do Rangers and Fight. These seem to be similar to Classics, where the collector's attitude is to want them to read, whereas investors are spending the money on the high end super-hero Golden Age.

ATLAS. This is a very strong market across the board. Although special artist issues are most popular, monster books just plain sell well. War titles are hanging up the rear, closely followed by romance titles.

CHARLTON: Captain Atom is HOT! Blue Beetle Bonus issues sell exceedingly well. Jetson, Phantom, Konga, Gorgo, Bullwinkle and Dirko issues of Space Adventures and Out Of This World, etc. are moving. There are a surprising number of T.V. Tales Charlton produced in the late 60's and early 70's that are not selling as fast as we would have thought.

HARVEY: We have many regular customers for Hot Stuff, Casper, Wendy, and all Casper and Wendy spin-offs. These are the most common and seem to want a few but not the whole run. Everything else, including Richie Rich, is dead. We finally managed to move a mmm Richie Rich #2 we had been carry ng for years, but we had to sell it for 1/2 guide, and we had it priced at 1986 guide! If you really need any of these, we hear there's a dealer out there with loads of these to d..mp.

3-D: We recently got a lot of 3-D Fire guide We've also sold a lot of Three Stooges 3-D, all issues, the very good to very fine grades; these all moved fast! Captain 3-D #1 seems to sell at guide, the warehouse find of several years ago seems to have been as misdirected as Atlantis is now. We're pushing House Of Terror 3-D (with Baker art) real hard because we have many copies currently in stock.

ROMANCE: Believe it or not, we do very well with most romance comics. DC titles are really tough for us to keep in stock. Charltons don't sell, but most other romance publishers are hard to keep in stock. We sell these books mainly to young collectors.

WESTERNS: Sunset Carson is it. If you didn't get yours already, buying a signed copy is really going to cost you. We can get 2-3 times guide for these. Dell titles are slowing down with Lone Ranger comics a bit slowly; later Rangers, from #112 on with the Clayton Moore photo covers do better. TV westerns sell well: Maverick, Have Gun Will Travel, Rifleman, Bonanza, and all the others are strong, strong sellers. The large amount of warehouse copies available has kept prices at guide.

Clint Eastwood covers makes Sunset roll over in his grave. These go for twice guide, easy. John Wayne goes well in Four Color appearances, but h s own title is so pricey that western fans tend to shy from it; they don't appreciate Frazetta as much as most of the regular art crowd. Fawcett titles sell, as they are just very pretty books. Charlton continuations of

Fanzetts are sellers, but other western titles are not.

WAR DC war titles continue to be very hot. In the last year, there has been a drastic upsurge in Our Army At War (Sgt. Rock), GI Combat (Haunted Tank), and Star Spangled War Stories (Dinosaur issues & Enemy Ace) The Enemy Ace graphic novel will further enhance Enemy Ace demand. Sgt. Fury is hot, #1's is accurately priced in the guide, most Most other war titles by all publishers are not moving as quickly as the others mentioned here.

GOLD KEY There are quite a few treasures hidden in the Gold Key library. Space Family, Astro Boy, Jonny Quest (1966) one-shots are easy to sell. We've sold out of our Green Hornet three issue series and currently have offers of $100 for # 1 $50 for #'s 2 & 3 in nm. Star Trek, Space Family, Robinson Crusoe, Magnus Robot Fighter are very good issue sellers, at guide. Munsters and Hanna Barbera Super TV Heroes are popular. Dark Shadows goes for 1 1/2 times guide in nm/nm with #3 (poster intact) being the hardest to find. We sold out of the issues we got for The Beatles Yellow Submarine; we also can't find this book with the poster In nm/m, we have standing offers of $150!

TOWER The DC resurgence may be closely tied to the current demand for Thunder Agents, Dynamo and No Man. This could be due to the crossover art of Wally Wood and Reed Crandall. It's hard to pin down a reason, but sales figures are a way up on these.

MODERN BOOKS: We said we'd not talk too much about the Batman lever of last year, but we might as well get some of this off our chests. Batman prices, we had a nearly inflated bump that the whole market value—the prices are just too high! Sales are back to the pre-movie levels across the board, with the exception of the new comics, and these are well below what they peaked at last year. The movie frenzy created a false and temporary inflation and there seems to now be a lot of dumping going on, at least in our market areas.

The demand for the Death In The Family saga has dried up; we sell complete sets for $50. This is especially sad when we see collectors trying to sell when they paid upwards of $75 for issue #426 alone. These fellows become us, and when they're ready to sell we have to sell for less depressed. Batman Year One (404-407) and The Dark Knight Returns have stabilized—the killer connection may increase demand for them, due to his Dark Horse project appearing soon. Of the Batman books, the only issues in which we have noticed a drastic increase in demand for are the Ten Nights Of The Beast mini-series which is very hot for us and which is going for $4 per set. Keep in mind that the current release of the Joker and Golden Age comics have caused many of our customers to drop Batman altogether

Todd McFarlane Just as last year we needed a separate section to discuss Batman, now we find ourselves faced with doing this for a single artist. Of course, first and foremost, the McFarlane issues of the Amazing Spiderman are where most of the interest lies. We predict that the issues of this book will be THE hottest sales of the year. #298 is going for $25 in our area, and we have seen it as high as $40 in the Miami region—at least dealers were asking that. Other issues in value Silver and Golden Age comics have caused many of our customers to drop Batman altogether

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#298—$15; #299—$400—$2k; #301 through 310—$8, #311 through 325—$6, with the exception of #316—10. #300 may go up even faster, as we have noted a shortage of this book in all markets.

As far as the new Spiderman is concerned, we have single customers ordering as many as 1,000 copies from us. The print run will be incredibly high (we've heard rumors of 1,000,000+), so the issue may not sell and hold an increase in the immediate future; but, we could be wrong.

Strangely, Todd's other comics work is not nearly as in demand as you would think. With the exception of his work on the Incredible Hulk, his books do not do that well, and of the Hulks, only #340 (Wolverine) is in peak demand, and it goes for $20 around here.

Todd McFarlane—If not for McFarlane's Spiderman #1, this would be the hottest new book of the first half of 1990. It sold tremendously well off the shelves; the fans love this one. Its popularity has made the first series go through the roof. Issues of the Silver Surfer and Ghost Rider which many dealers placed in their bargain bins, are now going for much higher prices. Even common issues of the old series are hard to come by and are fetching respectable bucks. Javier Saltares and Mark Texeira are beginning to have the touch on this one. About the time this price guide hits the stands, the Ghost Rider/Punisher crossover in Ghost Rider #'s 5/6 should be a big hit.

Punisher comics still sell as well as ever. The new title, however, is quite popular, with #1 going for $8, and #10 (Sabretooth) going for $5. And speaking of Sabretooth, his initial appearance in Iron Fist #14 is going for $25 in nm/m, and all Sabreltooth appearances seem to be in peak demand.

There are a few hot new DC titles out there. We've found that anything with the Legion character, Lobo, is in high demand. His first appearance is, apparently, in issue number two of Omega Men. He appeared in subsequent issues of that title, so look for those issues to accelerate in value. His forthcoming series should do well

Peter David's Star Trek is popular, accounting for increased sales activity in all of the preceding Star Trek comics from all publishers. Emerald Dawn has been a big hit, but we feel it currently bears a falsely inflated value that will not hold up in the long run. In our area #1 goes for $8, #2 is at $10, #3 at $4, #4 at $3, #5 at $2, and #6 is at cover. If DC comes out with a trade paperback of the Emerald Dawn series, it should kill the back issue values it currently has. The new Green Lantern series is selling very well. We moved hundreds of copies of the first issue in each of our stores.

Animal Man is very hot, and may still be DC's hottest modern back issue, #1 moves well at $12, #2 at $6, #3 at $4, #4 at $3, and #5 (the Coyote issue) goes for $5. Demand for the Deadman Adventure Animal Man appearances could be the hottest Silver Age DC's for us. We recently sold a fine+ #180 for $60, and a fine #190 for $25. Also, we have standing offers for these two books in nm/m of $150 and $50, respectively.

To close, we'd just like to mention that DC and Marvel seem to be dominating the modern/hot issues sales across the board, both in new comics and back issues. The only honorable mention we can make are that Dark Horse Comics seems to be still stirring up the market with their titles, and that Northstar is making some waves with such titles as Faust and Changeang. We're looking forward to the summer's sales, when we're expecting some pleasant surprises from the alternative publishers.

Michael Goldstein, John Chruscinski and Robert Prince
Tropic Comics
North Miami Beach, FL

Let's all say farewell to Batmania. Yes, our favorite winged mammal has been replaced by a quartet of pizza loving reptiles that have taken the nation by storm. Yes, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles now have the distinction of being the first merchandising tie-in to break our top five back issue sellers. In fact, aside from a certain radioactive arachnid type of guy that we will discuss later, they are our hottest seller in terms of general back issues. We are having trouble keeping any of them in stock, including the Archie issues. The early Mirage issues in magazine size are in very high demand. First printings of #1 in nm-m are easily going for 2-3 times guide. Number 2 is also fairly hard to find and is selling in the $25-$30 range in nice shape. The other large size issues, #'s 3, 4 and the Raphael one shot are a bit more plentiful but are still selling out at slightly above guide prices. Of the regular sized issues, #10 seems to be pretty scarce down here and we are getting ten dollars for it when we find one. Number six is also fairly hard to us to come by, though #5, 7-9 and the rest are more common. Even those are selling briskly at guide. Believe it or not, the #1 comics issue before #5 are selling for 1 1/2 to 2 times guide no problem! Some people will only buy color books. How long will Turtlemania last? There is no real answer to that, though we will still last as long as TSR can keep churning did This summer we have Kirby coming to the theater, so those as of now worthless Blackthorne issues might have some investment potential for the coming year. Captain America #270 Vol. 2 Cap sales are steadily increasing on their own merit, from what we've seen of the new movie we don't expect it to have much impact on the comic collecting market. Before we get into the individual comparisons, something else to be noted is the increase of collectors in the Silver Age market who are only interested in very high grade books. The demand is so strong for NM-M books and the supply is so small that any ten cent or twelve cent Marvel or DC comic in that kind of grade is selling for 1 1/2 to 2 times guide easily so far.

MARVELS: Amazing. That's the only word you need to know for this market report in regards to Marvel. Amazing Spiderman is our best selling back issue by far. The Todd McFarlane issues almost literally sell as soon as we put them in our boxes. It's bewildering to us that with all the books we have, we can't keep a thirty issue run from a couple years ago in stock. The demand is that high. The three most in demand issues are 298, 300, and 301. We are now getting $35 for #298 and $25 for #300 which is the highest book in the series from the Todd McFarlane run. other big selling Spideys are #'s 1-100 with emphasis on #'s 6, 14, 50, and 100 which are all selling for multiples of guide in nice shape (#14 and #50 in ANY shape). In the past few years the major interest in Spidey in the newer issues but this year we've noticed that it has expanded as far as the formerly dead twenty cent issues. This holds true not just for Spiderman but for all the major Marvel titles. Close runners up to Spidey are our two favorite psychopaths, Punisher and Wolverine. Anything they have ever appeared in is hot, and most are selling for over guide. Recently we sold a NM-M Spiderman #229 for $15 and a NM Journal #1 for a comparable amount. Punisher in Marvel Super Action and Marvel Preview are tough to come by and are the next most sought after Punisher issues. These, too, are going for over guide Captain America #241 with Punisher is very hard to come by here and is bringing $30 at least! Even Daredevil #247 with him is going for $8- $10. The first issue of the Punisher limited series is extremely hot and selling for $40 to $50 in mint. The other four issues in the series seem to be more common and, while they sell almost as well as #1, we still sell them at guide. As for the regular series, #1 is going for $12. The rest of the series is selling for slightly over guide with the exception of #'s 8-12 which seem to be harder to come by These we have been selling easily at 1 1/2 to 2 times guide. Besides #1 we have found #10 to be the most

in demand issue in the series and it's going here for at least $12. War Journal #1, even though it came later than the regular series, seems to be tougher to get, and is going for the same price as the regular #1. Hunters 5 and 7, even though they feature both Punisher and Wolverine are in plentiful supply, and are selling at just slightly over guide. As for Wolverine, his first appearance in Hulk #180 sells moderately well at guide, but #181 with his first full story is at least as hot as Spiderman #129 and is also going for multiples of guide in nice shape. Note: Be careful to check the insides of this book when buying one. Over the past several years we have come across several high grade copies that have had that silly Marvel stamp on the letters page cut out! Another hot Wolvie appearance is Captain America Annual #8. Blazingly hot! Sells quickly at $15. Daredevil #196 and the Spiderman and Wolverine one shot are also great sellers. The Wolverine mini-series, while plentiful in supply, still sells very quickly at guide. The ongoing series is very popular, with #1 selling for $12 and the rest selling for book or slightly over. On to other Marvels. Incredible Hulk is hot with the McFarlane issues leading the way. Number 340 with Wolverine is the biggest seller and is going for $17.50. The recent "Countdown" issues are also very popular and are selling steadily at $2 a piece. We haven't come across Hulk #1-5 recently, but we have a waiting list of people looking for them. Other big sellers are Hulk #102-110 and issue #200. X-Men, a title that dominated our best selling list for years has fallen a couple of notches While still a great seller, sales aren't what they were up to a couple of years ago. The first twenty or so issues are in high demand with #1-5 And #11 being the first Juggernaut the most sought after. Other good ones include #56-65, the Neal Adams issues and #210-213 with the Mutant Massacre. Newer issues have been selling at a steady pace, but nothing special. No goes for the other mutant books as well, very good sellers but not setting the world on fire. Captain America and Iron Man as well as their Tales Of Suspense issues are doing well, especially the ones in mint condition. Issues from fifteen to thirty-five cent issues are still pretty slow but the newer ones are moving quickly. The team books Avengers, West Coast, and Fantastic Four are average sellers, but there's noticed an increase in new FF issues since Walt Simonson took over. New issues of Groo don't sell great, but the early ones and the Pacific issues are hot. Steelltown Rockers. HA! It's gotten to the point where we still maybe 10 copies between our two stores. The Hellraiser book has been a big surprise and has been consistently selling out.

DC's: Not too much action here since Batmania fizzled out. High grade ten cent and twelve cent books are moving well at over guide, but lesser shape ones tend to sit. First issues and key books still move in any shape. Better selling back issues include The Atom, Green Lantern, Hawkman and Doom Patrol Of course, the Bat titles are still strong but not like last year. They sell decently at guide but not over. The Superman titles are still slow except for new issues which seem to be picking up. New Titans sales are stable and new issues have been improved over the year, as well as Legion and Legion 90. Animal Man is one of the best written books today and the fans are picking up on that making it one of DC's better sellers. Sandman, Swamp Thing, Shade are still selling pretty well, but have slowed a bit. Average books include Wonder Woman, Trimensters, Suicide Squad, Firestorm and Green Arrow. Better than average books are Aquaman, Flash, Justice League, Green Lantern and Hawkeworld. Slow ones are Checkmate, El Diablo, and Doc Savage. The oddball here books from the sixties, like Metamorpho and Metal Men have gotten unnecessarily hot and have leveled off. Back issue books like New Gods and Mr. Miracle have slowed Most Piranha Press books are slow as well

INDEPENDENTS We've discussed the Turtles boom earlier so we won't rehash that now The other blockbuster independents this year are Dark Horse's Aliens and Predator series which have been selling out quickly in plenty of copies. Aliens/Predator VS Predator mini-series is sure to be a tremendous success Dark Horse Presents #36 which has the beginning of the story was an immediate sellout here. We were lucky enough to get a reorder on them and have been getting $2.50 a piece no problem. The new Classics Illustrated series started out with a bang sales-wise but has slowed a great deal. The artwork for the most part is terrific, the stories already known, and unfortunately, not many super-heroes? (just kidding) Another big surprise has been the new Disney Comics. We ordered pretty much what we did on the Gladstones, but sold out the first time they went on sale. We have since tripled our order and are still selling out. I guess it's just that Disney name. Clive Barker's Tapping The Vein was another sellout and has been going for 1 1/2 times guide, Green Hornet is doing very well, as is Terminator. The old staples like Nexus, Cerebus, and Badger are still just plodding along and are a very little action in most of the other independents.

OLDER STUFF: Last year the Golden Age market was dominated by DC, and the super-hero titles are still moving strongly. However, down here the Timely books seem to be in demand. Captain America is the most asked for, but we haven't come across any recently. Human Torch, Marvel Mystery and Submariner follow in that order. The Fawcett books featuring any of the Marvel Family are also fast sellers due to their relatively cheap prices. Early Four Colors and Feature books are in demand but tough to find in any shape. Disney's and Dick Tracy's seem to be the most asked for Pre-hero books from the 30's are nearly non existent down here and bring record prices when they do turn up. Fifties horror, crime, and science fiction books are still slow even though they are cool comics and feature some of the best art ever to appear in comics TV and movie books, westerns, war, jungle and funny titles sell averagely for older books, but the Archie series of titles move pretty quickly This goes the same for the Harvey Richie Rich books. The mid-sixties super-hero books like Thunder Agents and The Fly are real slow. Classics Illustrated sells incredibly well no matter what printing, and we get over guide for most issues

Well, that seems to be it for this go round.

The second big question seems to be: Will Dick Tracy manila replace Turtlemania? Who knows? Aahh, who cares. By the way, the first big question is, "When do we eat?!!" uttered several times a day by our founder, lord and master, William "Big" Vogal. On that note we will bid adieu until next time.

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As spring turns to early summer and comic books change hands at an ever escalating or slowing rate (depending on where and when you happen to be) we at Sparkle City Comics wish to once again thank the publishers of the update of for the opportunity to address the comic public.

Since the last update and new Oversteet guide, the most active market area has still been high grade early Marvels. Current market on these books is as follows: FF #1 mint unrestored sells for $5,000 to $6,000, Fantasy #15 $5,500 to $6,500, DD #1 $1,000 to $1,200, Hulk #1 $2,000, JIM #83 $1,800 to $2,200, Astonish #27 $1,500, Suspense #39 $1,800 to $2,000, X-Men #1 $1,400 to $1,700, Avengers #1 $1,100 to $1,500. A general formula for other pre-1968 Marvels, except for some key books, is 1.9 to 2.5 current Overstreet. Key books to watch are Spidey #14, 17, 26 (Goblin) and FF #48 (Thing). Best buys are still Suspense #40-50, Spidey #20-100, JIM #84-115, and TTA #36-50.

For those of you upset that the new guide is still low on the above books, our thinking on it's subject is presented in update #11.

We should have the chance to see the effect of huge guide increases on long term hot books, since the new Guide did raise Batman and Detective to actual current market, or at least close. A year from now we'll have a better perspective.

Along with early Marvel, Silver DC has shown continued strength. Brave And Bold #28 in VF/NM has sold consistently at $2,000, which is also a good range now or in the near future for Showcase #22 and Flash #105. Still great value to be had in Green Lantern #1-30, JLA #1-40, Flash #105-140, Challengers, Sea Devils, Aquaman, Atom, and Hawkman Showcase and Brave And Bold are also in high demand.

In general, more money is being spent in the Silver Age market. This is most likely true because of the age and income brackets of potential collectors and investors. It's no coincidence CBG every time we bought a large Golden or Silver Age collection, Don and Maggie Thompson would stop returning my phone calls. A lot of this stuff gets printed because the CBG is weekly, they need print and news, and it is obviously advantageous for any dealer to get free publicity and hype for a newly obtained collection. The CBG can't check the quality or authenticity of many of these reports, so as a result we have the Hawkeye books, the Wimpy Cry books, the Iron Mike Pretty Nice Collection and on and on. Mile Highs are significant and are still the only historic and significant pedigree books—because of two factors—QUALITY AND SIZE OF THE COLLECTION Taking this a step further San Francisco, Cosmic Aeroplane and Allentown books provide a pretty sound pedigree because almost all of these were legitimately NM/ M with little doubt. These books, because of this, would be worth the same regardless of pedigree because of their condition. Most of the other so called pedigreed collections contain some nice books, and some average books, so the origin tells you nothing. End of sermon.

We'll close with a quick overview of market areas, concisely broken down:

MARVEL: Hot through 1968 in high grades, sound activity in lower grades.

DC: Silver Age very hot. Atom #1, Aquaman #1 selling over $200 in NM with potential to double or triple. Recent sales of Brave And Bold #28 at $2,000, Showcase #22 and Flash #105 at $2,200. Action #242 sold at $750. Mystery In Space #53 sold at $775. War titles are showing

increased interest. In Golden Age Flash #91 sold at $500. Flash #94 and #96 in slightly lesser grade for $350. Flash and Green Lantern GA still undervalued in general from issues #15 up. Action has been slow. Adventure under #100 bullish. Batman and Detective back to pre-frenzy levels but still very strong as they were before movie hype.

TIMELY: Much anticipation about Cap movie. Don't look for comparable increase a la Batman. Caps still do sell, however; NMM copy sold for $11,500. Mid to later issues strong at 1-2-1-3 guide. Low condition copies selling well in part to low supply. Timelys are far more scarce than DC so the demand for these need not be as high. Marvel #1 still a tad slow due to high guide list.

FAWCETT: Jim Payette pointed out in his last market report that Fawcett's are not the dogs many people say. We concur. We have strong sales for Fawcett titles Captain Marvel, Mary Marvel, Master, Whiz—particularly in the $100 and under range. These books are still affordable and much better buys than Predator #1. Look for these to go up in value over the next few years as DC books become even more expensive. Big ticket Fawcett books over $300 or so are still very slow. Bear in mind though that Whiz #2 in high grade is still one of the rarest Golden Age number ones.

FICTION HOUSE: Sales on these are steady but slow. I've noticed no growth and I would have expected some. Planet and Wings sell best. Nice paper is tough on these books. Recent sale of Planet #1 in F/VF for $1,400.

EC COMICS: With the upcoming sale of the Gaines EC sets and the new EC comics line, perhaps sales will increase. Low grade as always is steady because of low cost and high quality of product. Some recent interest in high grade. Annuals in higher demand. Two Fisted Tales Annual #2 in mint sold for $250. Mad title selling well including magazine. Magazines, particularly with attached premiums are hot and undervalued.

ATLAS: Very strong. Atlas market for pre-hero titles. Tales Of Suspense #15 sold at $125 along with #17 in VF at $100. Journey Into Mystery #1, the toughest first issue and other titles are selling well. Very high demand in premium grade.

DISNEY: Some increase in activity on FC ducks and Comics And Stories. FC #9 in F sold at $1,400. Mickey Mouse Four Colors selling at moderate pace.

Well, that's it for this time. We're out of time and space. Remember if you're a dealer buy low and sell higher and if you're a collector you know who to call—we're not allowed to mention our own names in this context, but. . ...

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**Advisors (left) Dr. Keith Contarino (Atlanta-based) and (right) Esq. D. W. Howard (Charlotte-based) during a discussion of current pricing at the Annual "Southern Boy Dealers Against Northern Yankee Dealers" Convention held in Charlotte each year.**

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# METROPOLIS COLLECTIBLES

The Nation's #1 Golden and Silver Age Dealer

## IS SELLING

1. Through Our Quarterly Catalog - Every three months, we publish a catalog that includes the majority of our present inventory. This means hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of the finest comic books on the market. If you would like to receive this catalog on a regular basis, you can't subscribe to it. If you are on our mailing list and make at least one purchase every 2 years, it will be sent to you free of charge. Please call or fill out the form below to be placed on our mailing list.

2. Through Want Lists - Probably the best way to purchase comics is by having your want list on file with us. Want lists are ideal for both the customer and the dealer. The customer is able to get first shot at all new acquisitions that come into our office, before they get publicly advertised. The dealer is able to sell comics directly to his customer without having to incur the cost of advertising. Year after year, our very best comic books have consistently been sold to people who have placed their want lists on file with us. We now have a fully computerized system to handle and coordinate all want lists. All we ask is that you please include a daytime and evening phone number and that you periodically advise us when certain books are no longer desired. It is also important to remember that we will send orders on approval to all collectors who have placed at least one order with us in the past year. In this way, a collector can actually view the books he or she has ordered before payment is made. If the books meet with the collector's approval, payment must be sent within 7 days. The minimum order using the approval policy is $50. Collectors should be advised that the only books we offer for sale are pre-1969.

3. At Our Office - We keep the majority of our inventory at our office. If you're ever planning to be in the New York area, please give us a call (at least 48 hours in advance) to set up an appointment to visit. We have an elaborate security system and great facilities in which to view merchandise. Our new offices are located at 7 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011, 4th Floor. Our office phone number is 212-627-9691 and our fax number is 212-627-5497.

4. Through CBG ads - the ads we run in CBG will feature some of the finest comic books on the market. Please remember that everything we sell through the mail is graded accurately and fully refundable.

5. At Conventions - We will be attending a variety of the major conventions such as San Diego Comic Con, Chicago Comic Con and Great Eastern's 2 -day shows. Feel free to come to our table and look over our merchandise. Also, if you see something of interest in one of our ads, please give us a call and we will gladly bring this item of interest to the convention. If you are interested in making a large purchase, we can arrange to meet you prior to the convention.

If you're considering making a purchase, please remember these 5 key points!

1. All items we sell are covered by a return privilege.
2. Our grading standards are among the strictest and most precise in the industry.
3. If you are interested in making a large purchase, we do offer extended payment plans.
4. Our regular customers receive their books on approval.
5. There is no other dealer in America who consistently offers such a large and diverse assortment of golden and silver age comics.

# METROPOLIS COLLECTIBLES

## 7 WEST 18TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10011

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Name : _____

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☐ I have silver and or golden age comic books to sell, please call me.

☐ I would like to receive your catalogs, so please place my name on your mailing list.

☐ Enclosed is a copy of my want list containing the titles I collect, the specific issues I need and the minimum grade that I would accept.

Action Comics #583, © DC

Action Comics Annual #1, © DC

Advanced Dungeons and Dragons #1, TSR

Adventure Comics #294, DC

ABYSS, THE
Dark Horse Comics - Cover Price

AC ANNUAL
AC Comics - Cover Price (3.95-c)

ACE COMICS PRESENTS
Ace Comics- Cover Price

ACES
Acme Press (Eclipse Comics) - Cover Price

ACTION COMICS (Weekly #601-642)
Dec., 1954- Present
DC Comics
1- Reprint, 1988, 50c cover .50
201- Last pre-code issue 110.00
202-220 60.00
221-240 70.00
241, 245-251 55.00
242- Origin & 1st app. Brainiac 275.00 + H
252- Origin & 1st app. Supergirl, re-intro of Metallo, 1st 2nd appearance since Superboy - 400.00 + H
253- 2nd app Supergirl 70.00 H
254- 1st meeting Of Bizarro & Superman 75.00 +
255- 1st Bizarro Lois Lane 60.00
256-261 30.00
262-266, 268-270 25.00
267- 3rd Legion app. 200.00 H
271-275, 277-282 :282-Last 10 cent 22.00
276- 6th Legion app. 70.00
283- Legion Of Super-Villains app. 30.00
284- Mon-El app. 30.00
285- 10th Legion app. 30.00
286-290 16.00
291, 292, 294-299 10.00
293- Origin Comet 22.00
300 12.00
301-308, 310-320 8.00
309- Legion app. 7.00
321-333, 335-340 4.00
334- Giant (G-20) 8.00
341-346, 348-359 3.50
347- Giant (G-32) 5.50
360- Giant (G-45) 5.50
361-372, 374-380 2.00
373- Giant (G-57) 4.00
381-424 1.50
425- Adams art 2.00
426-436, 438, 439 1.50
437, 443- 100 page giants 2.50
440- 1st Grell art on Green Arrow 4.00
441- Grell art on Green Arrow 2.50
442, 444-450 1.50
451-499 1.50
500- Superman life story 1.20
501-551, 554-582 1.00
552- Animal Man app. 6.00 + H
553- Animal Man cover 4.00 + H
583- Alan Moore 8.00 H
584-Byrne begins 1.50
585-597, 599 1.00
598- 1st app. Checkmate 3.00
600- 2 50 cover price 4.00
601-642 Weekly issues (1.50, 48 pgs.), 611-614 Catwoman stories, 613-618 :Nightwing s 1.50
643- Monthly begins, Perez c/a, scripts 1.50
644-649- 644- Perez begins .80
650- Double size, 1.50-c 1.50
651-654 1.00
Annual 1 (10/87) Arthur Adams art Batman app 6.00 + H
Annual 2 (July, 1989, 1.75, Perez c/a) 2.00
Title Value: $497.80

ACTION FORCE
Marvel Comics Ltd (British) - Cover Price

ADAM STRANGE (See Showcase 17, Mystery In Space
1990-No 3, 1990 (3.95, color, mini-series- 52 pgs.)
DC Comics
Book 1, 2 3.95
Title Value: 7.90

ADOLESCENT RADIOACTIVE BLACK BELT HAMSTERS (Also see Clint, Leftin Gas)
1986-No 3, Jan. 1988 (1.50, B&W)
Comic Castle/Eclipse Comics
1 2.50
1- 2nd Print (1.50) 1.20
2-9 1.20
3-D 1 (7/88) - 4 1.80
2 D 1 (Limited edition) 4.50
2 D 2-4 2 50 cover price 2.30
Massacre The Japanese Invasion (8 2.40
Title Value 34.30

ADVANCED DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
Dec. 1988-Present (1.25, cover)
DC Comics
1 10.00 + H
2 7.00 + H
3 5.00 + H
4-10 3.00 + H
11-15 2.00 + H
16-20 1.50 + H
Title Value: 69.50

ADVENTURE COMICS
No 200, 1955 - No 503, Sept, 1983
National Periodical Publications/DC Comics
200 150.00
201-209 115.00
210- 1st app. Krypto 800.00 H
211-220 80.00
221-246 60.00
247- 1st app. Leg. Of Super Heroes 1600.00
248-252, 254, 255 50.00
253- Superboy, Robin first meet 60.00 H
256- Origin Green Arrow 175.00 H
257-259 50.00
260- 1st SA Aquaman, origin retold 125.00 H
261-266, 268, 270 38.00
267-2nd Legion Of Superheroes 375.00
269- Intro Aqualad 65.00 H
271- Origin Luther 75.00 + H
272-274, 276-280 :278- 3rd Metallo 28.00
275- Origin Superman/Batman team re 45.00 H
281, 284, 287-289 24.00
282- 5th Legion app. 65.00
283- Intro Phantom Zone 36.00
285- 1st Bizarro World story in Adv. 45.00
286- 1st Bizarro Mayzotrk 36.00
290- 8th Legion app., last 10 cent iss 60.00
291, 292, 295-296 21.00
293- 13th Legion app. 42.00
294-1st Bizarro M. Monroe, Pres. Kennedy 32.00 H
299-1st Gold Kryptonite 25.00
300- Legion series begins 180.00
301- Origin Bounding Boy 60.00
302-305 33.00
306-310 26.00
311-320 20.00
321- Intro Time-Trapper 15.00
322-326, 328-330 13.00
327- Intro Timber Wolf in Legion 13.00
331-349 12.00
341- Triplicate Girl becomes Duo Damsel 8.00
342-345, 347, 350, 351 7.00
346, 348, 349 :8.00
352, 354-356 6.00
353- Death of Ferro Lad in Legion 10.00
361-364, 366, 368-370 4.50
365, 367, 371, 372 3.50
373, 374, 376-380 4.50
375- Intro Quantum Queen 5.50
381-389, 391-400 1.20
390- (60 pg. giant G-81) 4.00
401, 402, 404-410 1.25
403- (66 pg. Giant G-91) 4.00
411, 413, 414, 418, 419 .80
412- reprint Animal Man from Strange / 5.00 + H
415, 420, 421 - Animal Man reprints 2.00 + H
416- (100 pg. giant Supergirl DC-10) 1.20
417- Morrow Vigilante, Frazetta Shining Knight reprints Adv. 161 1.20
422-424 .80
425- New look 1.50
426-458 .60
459-466 .60
467-490 Last comic-size iss .60
491-499 491-100 pg. digests begin 1.20
500- All Legion reprints 1.60
501-503 1.20
Title Value 10417.80

ADVENTURERS, THE
August, 1986-Present (1 50, B&W)
Aircel Comics/Adventure Pub
1- Peter Hsu art 5.00 -
1- Cover variant, limited edition 15.00 -
1- 2nd Print (1986), 1st app. Elf Warrior 3.00
2, 3 2.50
0 -(94, 12/86) Origin 2.00
4-10 1.60
Book II Regular Edition No. 1 1.60
Book II Limited Edition No. 1 1.60
Book II #2-9 1.60
Book II' #1 (Oct., '89, 2.25-c) 2.25
Trade Paperback, B&W, 7.95 6.40
Title Value: 65.85

ADVENTURES IN THE MYSTWOOD
Blackthorne Pub. - Cover Price

ADVENTURES OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN
Now Comics - Cover Price

ADVENTURES OF BAYOU BILLY, THE
Archie Adventure Series - Cover Price (1 00)

# THE OVERSTREET UPDATE

**ADVENTURES OF B O C.**
Invasion Comics -Cover Price

**ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN JACK, THE**
June 1986 No. 12, 1989 (52, B&W, Adults)
Fantagraphics Books

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 3.00 |
| 2 | 2.50 |
| 3-12 | 1.80 |
| Title Value: | 23.50 |

**ADVENTURES OF CHUK, THE**
White Wolf Comics -Cover Price

**ADVENTURES OF FORD FAIRLANE, THE**
May, 1990-No 4 (1.50, mature readers, mini-series)
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-4: Movie tie-in | 1.50 |
| Title Value: | 6.00 |

**ADVENTURES OF LUTHER ARKWRIGHT, THE**
Oct 1987- No. 9, Jan 1989 (2.00, B&W)
March, 1990-No. 9 (1.95-c, B&W)
Valkyrie Press/Dark Horse Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2.50 |
| 2-9 | 1.80 |
| 1- Dark Horse series begins | 1.95 |
| Title Value: | 18.85 |

**ADVENTURES OF RICK RAYGUN, THE**
Stop Dragon Comics- Cover Price

**ADVENTURES OF SLATE SKATE, THE**
Hot Shot Comix- Cover Price

**ADVENTURES OF SPENCER SPOOK, THE**
Ace Comics- Cover Price

**ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN**
(Formerly Superman)
Jan , 1987-Present
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 424 | 2.70 |
| 425-449 449- Invasion | 1.00 |
| 450-487 | .80 + |
| Annual 1 (1987), 2 (1988) | 1.40 |
| Title Value: | 44.80 |

**ADVENTURES OF THE FLY**
(The Fly, No. 2, Fly Man No. 32-39)
Aug. 1959-No. 30, Oct. 1964, No. 31, May, 1965
Archie Publications, Radio Comics

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1- Shield app. origin The Fly, S&K c/a | 230.00 + | H |
| 2- Wiliamson, S&K, Powell a | 125.00 + | H |
| 3-Origin retold | 80.00 + | H |
| 4- S&K-c, Powell a, Shield r-over | 56.00 + | H |
| 5-10: 7- Black Hood app. 8, 9-Shield x | 30.00 + | H |
| 11-13, 15-20 20- Origin Pygit retold | 20.00 + | H |
| 14-Intro & origin Pygit | 30.00 + | H |
| 21-30 | 15.00 + | H |
| 31- Black Hood, Shield, Comet app | 15.00 + | H |
| Title Value: | 1046.00 | |

**ADVENTURES OF THE JAGUAR, THE**
Sept., 1961-No. 15, Nov. 1963
Archie Publications (Radio Comics)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1- Origin Jaguar | 75.00 + | H |
| 2, 3 | 35.00 + | |
| 4, 5-Gatgirl app. | 25.00 + | |
| 6-10, 8-Catgirl app. | 18.00 + | |
| 11-15 -13, 14 Catgirl, Black Hood app. | 14.00 + | |
| Title Value: | 355.00 | |

**ADVENTURES OF THE OUTSIDERS, THE**
(Formerly Batman And The Outsiders)
DC Comics - Cover Price

**ADVENTURES OF THEOWN, THE**
Pyramid Comics- Cover Price

**ADVENTURES OF ZOT! IN DIMENSION 10 1/2**
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

**AFTER APOCALYPSE**
Paragraphix- Cover Price

**AFTERMATH**
Invasion Comics- Cover Price

**AGAINST BLACKSHARD: 3-D**
Sirius Comics- Cover Price

**AGENT UNKNOWN**
Renegade Press- Cover Price

**AIRBOY**
July, 1986-Present (16 pages, bi-weekly)
Eclipse Comics ( no. 9 on regular size)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 3.80 |
| 2-4, 6-8 | 2.00 |
| 5- Dave Stevens cover | 3.00 |
| 9-20 | 1.60 |
| 21-30 | 1.40 |
| 31-49 | 1.60 |
| 50- 3.95 cover, 52 pgs Kubert -c | 3.95 |
| Arboy Meets The Prowler (1987) | 1.95 |
| Arboy - Mr. Monster Special (1987) | 1.95 |
| Airboy Versus The Air Maidens (1988) | 1.95 |
| Title Value: | 90.60 |

**AIR FIGHTERS CLASSICS**
Nov. 1987-No. 6, May, 1989 (3.95, B&W)
Eclipse Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-6 | 3.95 |
| Title Value: | 23.70 |

**AIRFIGHTERS MEET SGT. STRIKE SPECIAL**
Jan. 1988 (1.95, color, one shot)
Eclipse Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1.95 |
| Title Value: | 1.95 |

**AIRMAIDENS SPECIAL**
August, 1987 (1.75, color, one shot)
Eclipse Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2.00 |
| Title Value: | 2.00 |

**AIR RAIDERS**
Nov. 1987-No. 5, Mar. 1988 (1.00, color)
Star Comics (Marvel)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-5 | 1.00 |
| Title Value: | 5.00 |

**AKIRA**
Sept., 1988-Present (3.50, color, deluxe)
Epic Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 7.00 + |
| 1- 2nd print | 4.00 + |
| 2 | 5.00 + |
| 2- 2nd print | 4.00 |
| 3-20 | 3.75 |
| Title Value: | 88.50 |

**ALBEDO**
Apr. 1983- Present? (B&W)
Thoughts And Images

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 0- Yellow cover, 50 copies | 140.00 | - |
| 0- White cover, 450 copies | 120.00 | - |
| 0- Blue, 1st printing, 500 copies | 65.00 | - |
| 0- Blue, 2nd printing, 1000 copies | 45.00 | - |
| 0- 3rd print | 4.00 | |
| 0- 4th print | 1.60 | |
| 1- Dark red, 1st app. Usagi Yojimbo | 60.00 | - |
| 1- Bright red | 50.00 | - |
| 2 | 60.00 | - |
| 3 | 8.00 | |
| 4 | 12.00 | - |
| 5 | 6.50 | |
| 6 | 8.10 | |
| 7-15 | 2.10 | |
| Title Value: | 599.10 | |

**ALF**
Mar. 1988-Present (1.00, color)
Marvel Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 6.00 - |
| 2 | 4.00 |
| 3-5 | 2.00 |
| 6-10 | 1.20 |
| 11-21 | 1.00 |
| Annual 1 (1988, 1 75-c), Evoolutionary War | 3.50 |
| Annual 2 (1989, 2.00-c) | 2.00 |
| Annual 3 (1990, 2.00-c) | 2.00 |
| Holiday Special (1.75, 64 pgs.) | 1.75 |
| Holiday Special 2 (1989, 2.00, 64 pgs.) | 2.00 |
| Spring Special 1 (1989, 1.75) | 1.75 |
| Title Value: | 56.00 |

**ALIAS: STRANGLEHOLD**
Now Comics - Cover Price (1.75-c)

**ALIEN DUCKLINGS**
Blackthorne Publishing - Cover Price

**ALIEN ENCOUNTERS**
June 1985 - No. 14 , Aug , 1987
Eclipse Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-14 | 2.00 |
| Title Value: | 28.00 |

**ALIEN FIRE**
1987-No. 3, 1987 (2.00, B&W)
Kitchen Sink Press

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-3 | 2.50 |
| Title Value: | 7.50 |

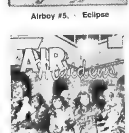
**ALIEN LEGION**
April, 1984 - No. 20, Sept. 1987
Epic Comics ( Marvel)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 3.50 |
| 2-8 | 2.00 |

Adventures of the Fly #3, Archie

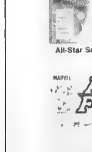
Airboy #5, · Eclipse

Airmaidens Special #1, · Eclipse



Akira #13, · Marvel

All-Star Squadron #47, DC



Alpha Flight #4, Marvel

Amazing Adventures #2 ('61), Marvel

The Amazing Spider-Man #38, Marvel

6-10 1.70
11-20 1.50
Title Value 35.00

**ALIEN LEGION**
Aug. 1987 Present (1.25, color)
Epic Comics
V2 #1 2.00
2-17 1.50
Title Value 26.00

**ALIEN NATION**
Dec. 1988 (2.50 color, one-shot)
DC Comics
1-Movie Adapta-tn 2.50
Title Value 2.50

**ALIENS**
1988-Present (1.95, B&W mini series)
Dark Horse Comics
1- New story based on movie 20.00 + H
1- Second printing 5.00 + H
1- Third printing 2.00 H
1- Fourth printing 2.00 H
2 11.00 + H
2- Second printing 3.00 + H
2- Third printing 2.00 H
3-5 4.00 + H
ALIENS II V2 #1- (Aug. 1989 color, 2 2.00 + H
2 2.50 H
Tida Value: 69.50

**ALIEN WORLDS**
Dec. 1982 - No. 3 Jan. 1985
Pacific Comics/Eclipse Comics
1 3.50
2-7 2, 4-Dave Stevens cia 3.00
8- 1st Eclipse issue 1.70
9- $1.50 cover price, last issue 2.00
3 D No. 1- Art Adams 5.00 H
Title Value 30.20

**ALL AMERICAN MEN OF WAR**
No. 2, Dec-Jan. 1953 No. 117, Sept.-Oct. 1966
National Period cal Publi
127 (1962) 193.00 +
128 (1962) 132.00 +
2-5 (1962) 110.00 +
6-10 66.00 +
11-18 Last pre-code issue 55.00 +
19-28 40.00 +
29, 30, 32-Wood art 44.00 +
31, 33-50 26.00 +
41-50 20.00 +
51-66 13.00 +
117 (1965) 17.00 +
68-80 8.00 +
81-100 4.00 +
101-117 3.00 +
Title Value. 2966.10

**ALL STAR INDEX, THE**
Independent Comics Group (Eclipse) - Cover Price

**ALL-STAR SQUADRON**
Sept. 1981 - No. 67, Mar. 1987
DC Comics
1 1.50
2 1.00
3-24 .80
25- 1st Infinity, Inc. 3.00
26- Infinity, Inc. origin 2.50
26-46, 48, 49 .80
47- Todd McFarlane art 3.50
50- Crisis x-over 1.50
51-53- Crisis x-over 1.00
54-67 .80
Annual 1-3 1.00
Title Value 66.20

**ALPHA FLIGHT**
Aug. 1983 - Present
Marvel Comics Group
1- Wolverine, Nightcrawler cameo 5.00 +
2 2.50 +
3-5 2.20
6-11 2.00
12- Double size 2.50
13- Wolverine app 8.00 + H
14-16 1.50
17- X-Men x-over, Wolverine cameo 5.00 H
18-28 Last Byrne issues 1.80
29-32, 35-38 1.30
33, 34- Wolverine app. 4.00 + H
40-49, 51 1.30
50- Double size 1.40
52, 53-Wolverine app. 4.00 + H
54-66 1.30
65-74, 76-85 74- Wolverine, Spider-Mi 1.50
75- Double size, 1.95 cover 1.95
Annual 1 1.80
Annual 2 - (12/87, 1.25 cover) 1.50
Title Value 155.35

**ALTER EGO**
May, 1986- No. 4, Nov. 1986 (mini-series)
Fiist Comics
1 1.80
2-4 1.40
Title Value 6.00

**ALTERNATE EXISTENCE**
Alternate Comics - Cover Price

**ALTERNATE HEROES**
Prelude Graphics -Cover Pr ce

**AMAZING ADULT FANTASY**
(Amazing Adve. No. 1 6 Amazing Fantasy No 15)
No. 7, Dec. 1961 - No. 14, July, 1962
Marvel Comics Group (AMI)
7- Ditko art in all 110.00 + H
8-last 10 cent issue 100.00 + H
9-14 82.00 + H
Title Value 702.00

**AMAZING ADVENTURES**
(Amazing Adult Fantasy No. 7 on)
June, 1961 - No. 6, Nov. 1961
Marvel Comics Group (AMI)
1- Origin Dr. Droom (1st Marvel Super-Hero)
Ditko & Kirby art in all 250.00 + H
2 165.00 + H
3-6 120.00 + H
Title Value 895.00

**AMAZING ADVENTURES**
Aug. 1970 - No. 39, Nov. 1976
Marvel Comics Group
1- Inhumans by Kirby & Black Widow begin
4.00 +
2-4 2.50 +
5-8 Adams art 4.00 +
9, 10- 10 Last Inhumans 2.00 +
11- New Beast begins, ends no 17, X Men cameo
5.00 +
10-17 2.50 +
18- 1st app. Killraven, Adams art 3.50 +
19-38 1.20 +
Title Value. 80.20

**AMAZING ADVENTURES**
December, 1979 - No. 14, January, 1981
Marvel Comics Group
V2 #1- Reprints X-Men 1, 98 2.00
2-14 Early X-Men reprints 1.50
Title Value: 21.50

**AMAZING ADVENTURES**
July, 1988 (4.95, squarebound, color, one shot)
Marvel Comics
1- Golden, Austin art 4.95
Title Value: 4.95

**AMAZING COMICS PREMIERES**
Amazing Comics - Cover Price

**AMAZING CYNICALMAN, THE**
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

**AMAZING FANTASY**
( Adult Fantasy No. 7-14)
No 15, Sept. 1962 (on 1st pg )
Marvel Comics Group (AMI)
15- Origin & 1st app. Spider Man 3050.00 + H
Title Value 3050.00

**AMAZING HIGH ADVENTURE**
Marvel Comics Group - Cover Price

**AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, THE**
March, 1963 - Present
Marvel Comics Group
1- Origin resold, Ditko 3050.00 + H
1 (Reprint) 45.00 + H
1 (with record) 100.00 + H
2- Intro. The Vulture 1000.00 + H
3- Intro. & 1st app. Doc Octopus 700.00 + H
4- Origin & 1st app. The Sandman 400.00 + H
5- Dr. Doom app. 400.00 + H
6- 1st app. Lizard 450.00 + H
7, 8, 10 300.00 + H
9- 1st app. Electro 325.00 + H
11, 12 180.00 + H
13- 1st app. Mysterio 225.00 + H
14- Intro the Green Goblin 450.00 + H
15- Intro Kraven The Hunter 200.00 + H
16, 18, 19 125.00 + H
17- 2nd app. Green Goblin 200.00 + H
20- Intro & origin The Scorpion 140.00 + H
21-27, 29, 30 26- 1st app. Crime Master
85.00 + H
28- 1st app. Molten Man, scarcer in high grade
100.00 + H

31-40' 31- Intro Harry Osborn, Gwen Stacy, & Prof. Warren, 38-Last Disko issue, 39, 40- Green Goblin in both

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 56.00 | H |
| 41, 43-49 | 35.00 | H |
| 42- 1st app. Mary Jane Watson | 44.50 | H |
| 50- Intro Kingpin | 112.00 | H |
| 51- 2nd app. of Kingpin | 30.00 | H |
| 52-60 56- Intro Capt. George Stacy | 21.00 | H |
| 61-80 | 14.00 | H |
| 81-89, 91-93, 95, 98 | 12.60 | H |
| 90- Death of Capt. Stacy | 16.80 | H |
| 94- Origin retold | 21.00 | H |
| 96-99 Drug books not approved by CCA | | |
| | 28.00 | H |
| 100- Anniversary issue | 55.00 | H |
| 101- Intro Morbius | 18.00 | H |
| 102- Origin Morbius (52 pgs.) | 18.00 | H |
| 103-112, 115-118 | 9.80 | H |
| 113, 114, 119, 120 | 10.50 | H |
| 121- Death of Gwen Stacy | 45.00 | H |
| 122- Death of Green Goblin | 65.00 | H |
| 123-128 | 8.40 | H |
| 129- 1st app. The Punisher (2/74) | 250.00 | H |
| 130-133, 135-140 | 7.00 | H |
| 134- Punisher cameo app. (July, 1974) | 17.00 | H |
| 135- Punisher app. (Aug. 1974, 2nd ap | 45.00 | H |
| 141-160 | 5.60 | H |
| 161- Punisher (cameo) | 11.00 | H |
| 162- Punisher app., Nightcrawler | 20.00 | H |
| 163-170 | 4.20 | H |
| 171-173, 176-181 181- Origin retold, gives life history of Spiderman | 4.20 | H |
| 174, 175- Punisher app. | 14.00 | H |
| 182-189 | 4.20 | H |
| 189, 190- Byrne art (p) | 5.00 | H |
| 191-193, 195-199, 203-219 206- Byrne | 4.20 | H |
| 194- 1st Black Cat | 5.80 | H |
| 200- Giant origin issue | 12.00 | H |
| 201, 202- Punisher app. | 15.00 | H |
| 220-237 | 4.00 | H |
| 238- 1st app. Hobgoblin | 20.00 | H |
| 239- 2nd app. Hobgoblin | 10.00 | H |
| 240-250 | 3.00 | H |
| 251 | 6.00 | H |
| 252- New black costume for Spiderman | 8.00 | H |
| 253- 1st app. The Rose | 5.00 | H |
| 254 | 3.50 | H |
| 255-260 259- Spider-Man back to old costume | 3.00 | H |
| 261-274, 276-283 | 2.00 | H |
| 275- Reprints origin 1.25 cover, docub | 5.00 | H |
| 284- Punisher cameo app., Gang War I | 4.00 | H |
| 285- Punisher app. | 12.00 | H |
| 286-288 Gang War storyline #284-288 | 3.50 | H |
| 289-292 | 3.50 | H |
| 293- Double size, origin Hob-Goblin | 10.00 | H |
| 293, 294- Six part, Kraven | 6.00 | H |
| 295-297 | 4.00 | H |
| 298- Todd McFarlane chart begins | 30.00 | H |
| 299- McFarlane art | 15.00 | H |
| 300- Double size, last black costume | 30.00 | H |
| 301-305 | 15.00 | H |
| 306-315 312- Hobgoblin app. | 10.00 | H |
| 316-323 319- Biweekly begins | 6.00 | H |
| 324- McFarlane cover only | 3.00 | H |
| 325- Last McFarlane | 6.00 | H |
| 326-329 | 2.00 | H |
| 330, 331- Punisher app. | 3.00 | H |
| 332-334 | 1.00 | H |
| Annual 1 | 150.00 | H |
| Annual 2 | 60.00 | H |
| Special 3, 4 | 25.00 | H |
| Special 5-8 | 12.00 | H |
| King Size 9 | 8.00 | H |
| Annual 10, 11, 12 | 5.00 | H |
| Annual 13- John Byrne art | 6.00 | H |
| Annual 14- Miller cover and art | 7.00 | H |
| Annual 15- Punisher app., Miller c/a | 15.00 | H |
| Annual 16-20 | 4.00 | H |
| Annual 21- Wedding issue direct sale version | 6.00 | H |
| Annual 21- Wedding issue, newstand version | 5.00 | H |
| Annual 22 (1988)- Evolutionary War | 6.00 | H |
| Annual 23 - (1989) Atlantis Attacks | 4.00 | H |
| Giant Size 1 | 8.00 | H |
| Giant Size 2, 3, 5, 6 | 4.00 | H |
| Giant Size 4- Third Punisher app. | 40.00 | H |
| Title Value' | 14378.75 | |

**AMAZON, THE**
Comico - Cover Price

**AMAZON WARRIORS**
AC Comics - Cover Price

**AMBUSH BUG**
June, 1985 - No. 4, Sept, 1985 (4-issue mini-series)
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1.00 |
| 2-4 | .60 |
| Stocking Stuffer (2/86) | 1.30 |
| Title Value: | 4.70 |

**AMERICAN, THE**
July, 1987-No. 9, 1989 (B&W, 1.75)
Dark Horse Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1- 1 50 cover | 6.50 |
| 2 | 4.40 |
| 3-5 | 3.00 |
| 6-8 | 1.75 |
| American Collection (B&W, 5.95) | 5.95 |
| Title Value. | 32.85 |

**AMERICAN FLAGG!**
Oct, 1983 - No 50, Mar 1988
First Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 9.00 |
| 2-12 | 3.00 |
| 13-50 | 1.00 |
| Special 1 | 1.50 |
| Title Value. | 50.00 |

**AMERICAN FLAGG! (Howard Chaykin's)**
May 1988-V2 #12, Apr 1989 (1 75, color)
First Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| V2 #1-6, 11, 12 | 1.75 |
| 10- Elvis Presley photo cover | 2.50 |
| Title Value: | 21.75 |

**AMERICA'S BEST TV COMICS**
1967 (Giant Size, 68 pgs , 25 cent one shot)
American Broadcasting Company
1- Fantastic Four, Casper, Amazing Spider-Man, King Ko other cartoon characters appear 15.00
Title Value: 15.00

**AMERICA VERSUS THE JUSTICE SOCIETY**
Jan, 1985 - No 4, Apr, 1985 (mini-series)
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1.50 |
| 2-4 | 1.00 |
| Title Value: | 4.50 |

**AMERICOMICS**
May, 1983-No 6, Mar, 1984 (Color)
Americomics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-6 printed on Baxter paper | 2.50 |
| Special 1 (8/83, $2.00) | 2.00 |
| Title Value' | 17.50 |

**AMETHYST**
Jan, 1985 - No 16, Aug 1986
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-16 | 1.00 |
| Special 1 | 1.30 |
| Title Value' | 17.30 |

**AMETHYST**
Nov, 1987-No 4 Feb 1988 (1 25, mini-series, color)
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-4 | 1.25 |
| Title Value: | 5.00 |

**AMETHYST, PRINCESS OF GEM WORLD**
May, 1983 - No 12, April, 1984 (12 issue mini-series)
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 - 60 cent regular cover price | 1.50 |
| 1 - 35 cent cover price tested in Austin and Kansas City only, scarce | 12.00 |
| 2 - 35 cent cover price tested in Austin and Kansas City only, scarce | 12.00 |
| 2-12 | 1.00 |
| Annual 1 | 1.30 |
| Title Value. | 37.80 |

**AMUSING STORIES**
Renegade Press- Cover Price

**ANGEL AND THE APE (Becomes "Meet Angel")**
Nov -Dec. 1968-No 6 Sept -Oct 1969
National Periodical Publ cations

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 7.00 |
| 2-6 | 5.00 |
| Title Value | 30.00 |

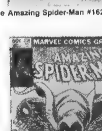
**ANGEL LOVE**
DC Comics - Cover Price

**ANGRY SHADOWS**
innovation Pub - Cover Price (4 95)

**ANIMAL MAN**
Sept 1988-Present (1 25, color)
DC Comics

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 12.00 H |
| 2 | 8.00 H |
| 3, 4 | 4.00 H |
| 5-10 6- Invasion tie-in | 3.00 H |
| 11-15 | 2.50 H |
| 16-20 | 2.00 H |

The Amazing Spider-Man #162, Marvel



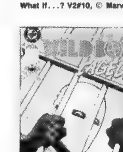
The Amazing Spider-Man #238, Marvel

Amethyst, Princess of Gemworld #3, DC

Animal Man #1, DC

What If . . . ? #8, © Marvel

What If . . . ? V2#10, © Marvel




Wild Dog Special #1, ≤ DC

Wolverine #1 (11/88), ≤ Marvel

**WEIRD, THE**
Apr. 1988-No. 4, July 1988 (1.50, color, mini-series)
DC Comics
1- Wrightson cover & art in all 2.50
2-4 2.00
Title Value: 8.50

**WEIRD ROMANCE**
Eclipse Comics- Cover Price

**WEREWOLF**
Blackthorne Publishing- Cover Price

**WEREWOLF AT LARGE**
Eternity Comics - Cover Price

**WEREWOLF BY NIGHT**
Sept. 1972 - No. 43, Mar. 1977
Marvel Comics Group
1 8.00 +
2-31, 34-38, 38-43 1.00
32- Origin, 1st app. Moon Knight 12.00 +
33- Moon Knight 7.00 +
37- Moon Knight 3.00 +
Giant Size 2-5 1.00
Title Value: 71.00

**WEST COAST AVENGERS**
Sept. 1984 - No. 4 Dec. 1984 (4-issue mini-series)
Marvel Comics Group
1 7.00
2-4 4.50
Title Value: 29.50

**WEST COAST AVENGERS**
**(Avengers West Coast #46 on)**
Oct. 1985 - Present (regular series)
Marvel Comics Group
V2 #1 5.50 +
2, 3 4.00 +
4-6 3.00 +
7-10 2.50 +
11-20 2.20 +
21-30 1.40 +
31-41 1.10 +
42- John Byrne a/script begin 2.20 +
43-50, 48- Becomes Avengers West Co 1.10 +
51-60, 57- Last Byrne c/a 1.00
Annual 1 2.20 +
Annual 2 (1987, 1.25) 2.00 +
Annual 3 (1988) Evolutionary War 2.80 +
Annual 4 (1989, 2.00) Atlantis Attacks 2.20 +
Title Value: ≤ 112.80

**WESTERN GUNFIGHTERS**
Aug., 1970-No. 33, Nov., 1975 (1-6, 68 pgs., 7, 52 pgs
Marvel Comics Group
1- Ghost Rider begins 2.00 +
2-33 7- Origin Ghost Rider retold, 10- Origin Black Ride 1.00 +
Title Value: 34.00

**WHAM-O GIANT COMICS**
1987 (Newspaper size, 96, one shot, full color)
Wham-O Mfg. Co.
1- Radian & Goody Bumpkin by Wally Wood; t pg Stan
Lou Fine, Toth art, wraparound-c 15.00 +
Title Value: 15.00

**WHAT IF...?**
Feb. 1977 - No. 47, Oct. 1988
Marvel Comics Group
1- Spider-man, F.F. 9.00 + H
2- Origin Hulk retold 5.50 + H
3-5 4.40 + H
6-10 3.30 + H
11, 12 2.80 + H
13- Conan 4.40 + H
14-26, 28, 30- 32-Origin Dr. Doom retc 2.20 + H
27- X-Men app., Miller-c 6.60 + H
28- Daredevil by Miller 6.60 + H
31- X-Men app., Wolverine app. 6.60 + H
32-47 1.70 + H
Special (June, 1988, 1.50, color) 1.70 + H
Title Value: 135.90

**WHAT IF...?**
July, 1989-Present (1.25, color)
Marvel Comics
V2 #1- Evolutionary War 3.00 +
2-5 1.40 +
6-X-Men 2.50 +
7-Wolverine app. 2.00 +
8-12: 8- X-Men 1.50 +
13, 14 1.25
Title Value: 23.10

**WHAT THE-?!**
Aug. 1988-Present (1.25/1.50, color, semi-annual)
Marvel Comics
1 2.00
2, 4 1.50
3- Todd McFarlane art 3.00
5- Punisher/Wolverine parody 1.50
Title Value: 6.50

**WHISPER (Female Ninja)**
Dec, 1983 - No. 2, 1984
Capital Comics
1- Origin 9.00
2 4.00
Title Value: 17.00

**WHISPER**
June, 1986-No. 37, June, 1990
First Comics
V2 No. 1 3.00
2 2.00
3-9 1.30
10-15: 1.75-c 1.75
17-37: 1.95-c 1.95
Special 1 (Nov. 1988, 2.50) 2.50
Title Value: 58.80

**WHOOUNIT?**
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

**WHO'S WHO**
Mar, 1985 - No. 26, April 1987 (26 issue mini-series)
DC Comics
1 2.00
2-26 1.20
Title Value: 32.00

**WHO'S WHO IN STAR TREK**
Mar. 1987-No. 2, Apr. 1987 (1.50, color)
DC Comics
1, 2 5.00
Title Value: 10.00

**WHO'S WHO IN THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES**
Apr. 1987-No. 7, Nov. 1988 (1.25, color Index)
DC Comics
1-7 1.30
Title Value: 9.10

**WHO'S WHO UPDATE '87**
Aug., 1987-No. 5 Dec. 1987 (1.25, color)
DC Comics
1-5 1.50
Title Value: 7.50

**WHO'S WHO UPDATE '88**
Aug. 1988-No. 4, Nov. 1988 (1.25, Index)
DC Comics
1-4 1.25
Title Value: 5.00

**WILD, THE**
Eastern Comics - Cover Price

**WILD ANIMALS**
Pacific Comics - Cover Price

**WILD BILL PECOS**
AC Comics - Cover Price

**WILD DOG**
DC Comics - Cover Price

**WILD KNIGHTS**
Eternity Comics - Cover Price

**WILDMAN**
Megaton Comics- Cover Price

**WILLOW**
Marvel Comics - Cover Price

**WINTERWORLD**
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

**WITCH**
Eternity Comics - Cover Price

**WIZARD OF FOURTH STREET**
Dark Horse Comics- Cover Price

**WIZARD OF TIME, THE**
David House- Cover Price

**WIZARDS OF THE LAST RESORT**
Blackthorne- Cover Price

**WIZARD WORKS**
Fantasy General- Cover Price

**WOLFPACK**
Marvel Comics - Cover Price

**WOLPH**
Blackthorne- Cover Price

**WOLVERINE (Also see Incredible Hulk)**
Sept, 1982 - No. 4, Dec, 1982 (mini-series)
Marvel Comics Group
1- Miller cover & art in all 16.00 + H
2, 3 11.00 + H
4 13.00 + H
Title Value: 51.00

**WOLVERINE (Also see Marvel Comics Presents)**
Nov. 1988-Present (150, color)
Marvel Comics
1 10.00 + H
2 6.00 + H
3-5 4.50 + H
6-9/ 7, 8- Hulk app. 4.00 + H
10- Before claws, 1st battle with Sabert 8.00 + H
11-16 3.00 + H
17-20 17- Byrne c/a begins, ends #23 2.00 + H
21-26 1.50 H
The Jungle Adventure (4 50-c) 4.50
Title Value: 93.00

**WOLVERINE SAGA, THE**
Sept., 1989-No 4, Dec 1989 (3.95, color, deluxe, mini-s
Marvel Comics
1- Beginning 5.00 +
2-4 4.00 +
Title Value: 17.00

**WONDER MAN**
Marvel Comics - Cover Price

**WONDER WOMAN**
No.73, January, 1955 - No. 329, Jan, 1986
National Periodical Publications/DC Comics
73-99 45.00
91-99, 95-99 30.00
95- Atom Bomb cover 35.00
100 38.00
101-104, 106-110 25.00
105- Secret origin, scarce 60.00 +
111-120 14.00
121-129, 126-Last 10 cent issue 8.00
127-130 6.00
131-150 5.00
151-158, 160-170 4.00
159- Origin retold 5.00
171-178 3.00
179-185 2.50
186-198 2.00
199, 200 5.00
201-210 1.20
211-266, 269-280, 284-286 1.00
267, 268- Re-Intro Animal Man 15.00 + H
281-283 Joker covers & stories 2.00
287- New Teen Titans app. 1.50
288-296, 301-328 1.00
300- 76 pgs., 1.50 cover 1.50
329- Last issue 1.50
Title Value: 2064.00

**WONDER WOMAN**
Feb 1987-Present
DC Comics
1- Perez cover & art begins, ends #24 3.00
2-8 1.50
9-10 1.30
11-20 1.10
21-43 1.00
Annual 1 (1 50, 1988)- Art Adams art 1.50
Annual 2 (2 00, 1989) 2.00
Title Value: 53.00

**WORDSMITH**
Renegade Press - Cover Price

**WORLD OF KRYPTON**
July, 1979-No. 3, Sept, 1979
Dec. 1987-No 4, Mar 1988 (mini-series, 75, color)
DC Comics
1-3 1.00
1- Byrne story 1.00
Title Value: 7.00

**WORLD OF METROPOLIS, THE**
Aug, 1988-No 4, Nov 1988 (1.00, color, mini-series)
DC Comics
1-4 Byrne scripts 1.00
Title Value: 4.00

**WORLD OF SMALLVILLE**
Apr, 1988-No. 4, July 1988 (.75, color)
DC Comics
1-4 1.20
Title Value: 4.80

**WRAITH OF WOOD**
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

**WORLD OF YOUNG MASTER**
New Comics Group - Cover Price

**WORLD'S FINEST COMICS**
No. 75, Jan, 1955 - No. 323, Jan, 1986
National Period cal Publ /DC Comics
75-90 1st code approved 80.00
91-99 55.00
91-93, 95-99 35.00
94- Origin Superman/Batman team retc 150.00 H
100 85.00 H
101-121 121-Last 10 cent issue 25.00
122-128, 130-142 12.00
129- Joker c/s 20.00 H
143-150 8.00
151-155, 157-160 6.00
156- 1st Bizarro Batman, Joker C&S 23.00 + H
161- Giant G-28 170- Giant G-40 7.00
162 166, 167-169, 171-174 4.00
166- Joker C&S 8.00 H
175, 176- Adams art 5.00 H
177, 178, 180-187 2.00 H
179 (G-52), 188 (G-64) Giants 3.00 H
189-196 2.00 H
197- Giant G-76 3.00 H
198-204 2.00 H
205- Shining Knight by Frazetta-r 2.00 H
206- Giant G-88 2.00 H
207-249 1.50 H
249- The Creeper by Ditko begins 4.00 + H
250-299 301-323 1.50 H
300 (48 pgs., $1 25) New Teen Titans 2.00 H
Title Value: 2795.50

**WRATH OF THE SPECTRE, THE**
May 1988-No 4, Aug 1988 (2 50, color, mini-series)
DC Comics
1-4 2.50
Title Value: 10.00

**WYOMING TERRITORY**
Ark Comics - Cover Price

**XANADU**
Thoughts & Images - Cover Price

**XENO-MEN**
Blackthorne- Cover Price

**XENON**
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

**XENOZOIC TALES**
Feb 1987-No. 7, 1988 (2 00, B&W)
Kitchen Sink
1 3.00
2 2.50
3-7 2.00
Title Value: 15.50

**X-FACTOR**
Feb, 1986 - Present
Marvel Comics Group
1- 1 25-c, 52 pgs. 8.00 H
2, 3 5.00 H
4, 5 4.50 H
6-10 3.50 + H
11-20 3.00 + H
21-23 2.50 + H
24-26 Fall Of The Mutants 4.00 + H
27-30 2.00 + H
31-37, 39-49 41, 42- Art Adams art (p) 1.50 + H
38- Double size, 1.50-c 2.00 + H
50- Double size, 1.50-c, McFarlane-c 2.00 + H
51-56 1.00 H
Annual 1 (10/88), 2 (10/87) 2.50 H
Annual 3 (1988) Evolutionary War 3.00 H
Annual 4 (1989, 2 00) Atlantis Attacks 2.50 + H
Title Value: 142.00

**X-MEN, THE (Uncanny ... #142 - on)**
Sept, 1963 - Present
Marvel Comics Group
1- Origin and 1st app. The X-Men 1100.00 + H
2- 1st app. The Vanisher 380.00 H
3- 1st app. The Blob 200.00 H
4- 1st app. Quicksilver, Scarlet Witch 160.00 H
5 130.00 H
6-10 100.00 H
11, 13-15 85.00 H
12- Origin Professor X 75.00 H
16-20 45.00 H
21-27, 29, 30 35.00 H
28- 1st app. The Banshee 40.00 H
31-34, 36, 37 25.00 H
35- Spider-Man app. 30.00 + H
38- Origin The X-Men; feature begins 30.00 H
39, 40: 39-new costumes 25.00 H
41-49 20.00
50, 51 Starlsnko c/s 25.00
52 16.00

Wolverine #19, © Marvel

Wonder Woman #1 (2/87), © DC

World's Finest Comics #258, © DC

X-Factor #48, © Marvel

# THE OVERSTREET UPDATE

X-Men #3, © Marvel

X-Men #108, © Marvel

X-Men #256, © Marvel

Young All-Stars #27, © DC

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 53- 1st Barry Smith comic book work | 25.00 | |
| 54, 55- Smith cover, 54- 1st Alex Sumr | 20.00 | |
| 56-62, 65- Adams art, 58-1st Havoc | 26.00 | |
| 64- 1st Sunfire | 20.00 | |
| 66 | 12.00 | |
| 67-99 | 12.00 | |
| 84- New X-Men begin | 180.00 | + |
| 95- Death of Thunderbird | 40.00 | |
| 96-99 | 28.00 | |
| 98, 99- 30¢ variants, NOT RARE! | 32.00 | |
| 100- Old X-Men vs. New X-Men | 30.00 | |
| 101- Phoenix origin concludes | 28.00 | |
| 105-107 | 13.00 | |
| 108- Byrne art begins in X-Men, see Marvel Team-Up #53 for 1st Byrne X-Men | 30.00 | |
| 109- 1st Wolfpcear | 25.00 | |
| 110, 111 | 15.00 | |
| 112-119 | 12.00 | |
| 120- 1st Alpha Flight | 28.00 | |
| 121- Alpha Flight | 30.00 | |
| 122-126 | 11.00 | |
| 129- 1st app. Kitty Pryde | 13.00 | |
| 130- 1st app. Dazzler by Byrne | 14.00 | |
| 131-135 | 10.00 | |
| 136, 138 | 8.50 | |
| 137- Phoenix dies, double size | 11.00 | |
| 139- Wolverine's new costume | 13.00 | |
| 140- Alpha Flight app. | 18.00 | |
| 141 | 10.50 | |
| 142, 143, 143-Last Byrne issue | 6.30 | |
| 144-150 | 5.30 | |
| 151-157, 159-161, 163, 164 | 3.70 | |
| 162- Wolverine solo story | 4.50 | |
| 158- 1st app. Rogue in X-Men | 4.20 | |
| 165- Paul Smith art | 5.30 | |
| 166- Double size, Paul Smith art | 4.20 | |
| 167-170 | 3.20 | |
| 171- Rogue joins The X-Men, see Avengers Annual 10 | 6.00 | |
| 172-174, 172, 173- Wolverine solo sto | 3.20 | |
| 175- Double size | 4.00 | |
| 176-186 | 2.60 | |
| 185- Double size | 3.50 | |
| 187-192, 194-199 | 2.50 | |
| 193- Double size, special 100th app. New X-Men | 4.00 | |
| 200- Double size | 5.00 | H |
| 201-209 | 3.00 | H |
| 210-213, Mutant Massacre | 10.00 | + H |
| 214-224 | 2.00 | H |
| 225-227, Fall Of The Mutants | 6.00 | H |
| 228-241 | 1.75 | H |
| 242- Double size, Inferno tie-in | 2.00 | + H |
| 243-252 | 1.00 | H |
| 253- All new X-Men begin | 1.50 | H |
| 254-263 | 1.00 | H |
| Annual 3 (9/80) | 7.50 | H |
| Annual 4 (11/80) | 6.00 | H |
| Annual 5 (10/81) | 4.25 | H |
| Annual 6 (11/82) | 3.00 | H |
| Annual 7, Annual 8 | 2.50 | H |
| Annual 9- Art Adams art | 9.00 | H |
| Annual 10- Art Adams art | 9.00 | H |
| Annual 11 | 2.00 | H |
| Annual 12 (1988) Evolutionary War | 3.00 | H |
| Annual 13 ('90) Atlantis Attacks | 2.00 | H |
| Giant Size 1- 1st app. New X-Men | 85.00 | H |
| Giant Size 2- Neal Adams-r | 20.00 | H |
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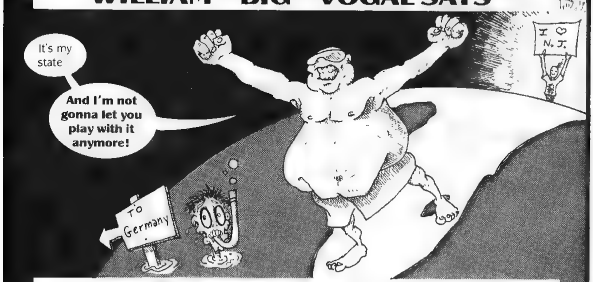


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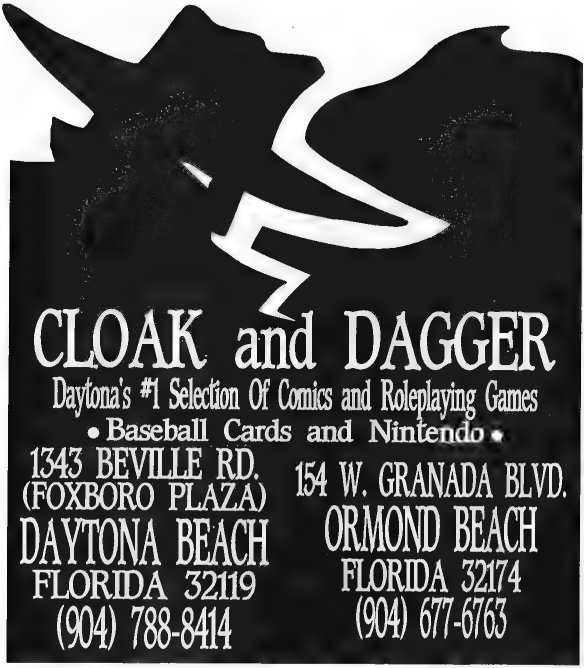
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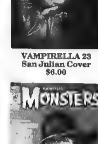


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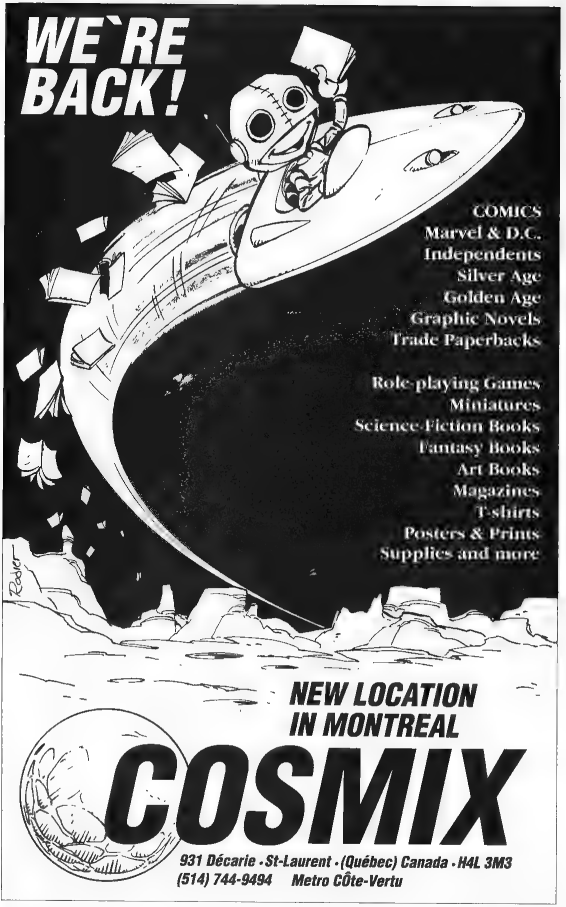
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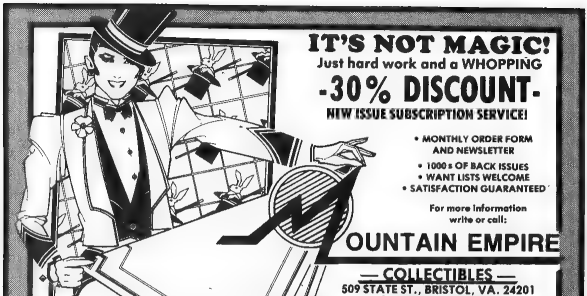
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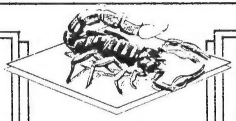

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